ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

TRANSMITTED

WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

AT THE

OPENING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS,

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REPORT

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THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, November 30, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the usual annual report of the operations during the past year, and the present condition of business, in this branch of the public service.

Since the last report, the emigration of Indians from east of the Mississippi to the new homes set apart for them west of that river, has been as follows: One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six Choctaws, and sixty-four Chickasaws from the State of Mississippi; three hundred and twenty-three Miamies from Indiana; a party variously stated at from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifteen of different bands from New York; and one hundred and four Creeks from Alabama. Nine hundred and fifty Sacs and Foxes have also been removed from Iowa to the country set apart for them southwest of the Missouri river.

The contractors for the removal of the remaining Choctaws in Mississippi failed to proceed with the emigration of those Indians according to the terms of their contract, a prominent one of which was that they were to "act with the greatest energy and industry, and to use all proper and persuasive means to induce the said Indians to remove within the shortest practicable period." The emigration had so far ceased that the agent of the government, Major William Armstrong, reported the contract forfeited, and took charge of a party who had assembled for emigration, and removed and subsisted them under the direction and at the expense of the government. It was evident that, under the then existing arrangements, little or no further emigration could take place, and that the contract certainly could not be carried out within the stipulated time, ending the 31st of next month. Evidence being furnished, however, that the business could be transferred to other and more efficient agents, by whom the removal could be effected by the 30th June next, and it being important to complete it within the shortest practicable period, and the proposed new proceeding appearing at the time better adapted than any other to secure that end, the Department consented to a new arrangement extending the time for the completion of the business to the period stated, and taking satisfactory security for its completion by that time.

Under the arrangement thus made, active measures were adopted and are now in progress, and the latest intelligence indicates that the whole emigration will be accomplished by the time limited. Two thousand were expected to leave for the west during this month, and the remainder in different parties within reasonable periods thereafter.

Of the Miamies who were under treaty obligations to emigrate, thirty were permitted to remain to gather their fall crops on condition of removing immediately thereafter.

It is regretted that, in consequence of the improper interference and influence of alleged creditors and other interested white persons, the removal of these Indians could not be effected without incurring the expense of send-

ing a company of troops to coerce them into a compliance with their treaty stipulations. The time fixed for their emigration had expired; and May last was designated for their removal. They were, however, then unwilling to remove and petitioned for further delay. They were allowed until August, when they promised to leave without causing any trouble or difficulty; but at that time they refused to go unless arrangements were made for the payment, out of their annuities, of alleged debts contracted subsequently to the ratification of their last treaty. This had before been positively refused both by the Department and the President. Provision to a very large amount had been made for the payment of debts contracted prior to the ratification of the treaty; and under an agreement between them and this class of their creditors, and by authority of a resolution of the Senate of the 24th of February last, their annuities were already subject to a charge of twelve thousand five hundred dollars annually for five years, for the payment of a remaining balance of those debts. The debts contracted after the ratification of the treaty, if contracted at all, were allowed to be incurred with a full knowledge that the Indians were required to remove, and that all their means would then be necessary for their comfortable establishment at their new homes in the west. They were probably incurred by a comparatively few, and they the more idle and vicious of the tribe; and it would have been very unjust, especially to the upright and industrious, to permit the common means to be taken to pay them, particularly when those means were already sufficiently reduced by the existing charges upon them. These debts were, therefore, regarded as private transactions between the creditors and the individual Indians who contracted them; and the President determined that they should in no way be recognised as just or fair demands upon the annuities of the tribe. Out of a spirit of revenge, or in the hope of coercing a different result, the creditors, and others interested, did all in their power to prevent the Indians agreeing to remove; inducing them to believe that if they would hold out in their determination, the government would yield. All peaceful and persuasive means having been exhausted, there was no alternative but to send troops to compel, if necessary, a compliance with the stipulations of the treaty, which, as the law of the land, it was the duty of the President to see fully carried out. Fortunately the mere presence of the troops was sufficient to convince the Indians that they had been deceived, and to induce them to go promptly and quietly, and they are by this time establishing themselves in their new homes. Much credit is due to Mr. Sinclair, the superintendent of removal, for his great firmness and activity, and to Captain Jouett, the commander of the troops, for his peaceful agency, in carrying out the views of the government.

The emigration of the party of New York Indians, I regret to state, turned out less fortunately than there was reason to anticipate. The Department was unwilling to undertake the emigration of a less number than two hundred and fifty, as the expenses were considered too great to be incurred for a smaller party. On being assured by a delegation here in September 1845, that that number were ready and willing to go the succeeding month, an agent was appointed to take charge of and accompany them; but upon the express condition, afterwards reiterated, that no party of a smaller number than two hundred and fifty should be started. He was required to report when the requisite number were prepared to go, when further and more detailed instructions were to be given. Early in November, it appeared that there were not so many willing to go that fall, and the agent

was informed that the measure must be abandoned for the present; but a few days after he apprized the Department that two hundred and sixty had enrolled, and further instructions and funds for the expenses of the party on the route were sent to him. Finding, however, on the 8th of December, that the party had not set out, although he was urged to use activity and diligence, the Department wrote to him requiring the abandonment of the measure for the present, as it was too late to go by water, and the government was unwilling to subject the Indians to the hardships and discomforts of a land route, and was indisposed to incur the additional expense to which the emigration of the party in that manner would give rise. Information afterwards received, rendered it very doubtful whether there were in fact more than a very few individuals disposed to emigrate; and as the subject had become one of much controversy and dissatisfaction among the Indians generally, commissioners were appointed to attend a general council of the tribe on the 2d of June last, in order to ascertain the real wishes of the Indians, it being the determination of the Department to abandon any further proceedings in the matter, should it appear on investigation by the commissioners that there were not two hundred and fifty who really wished to emigrate. The emigrating agent was duly notified of the appointment of these commissioners and the object, when, it appears, that instead of awaiting the result of this investigation, and the further orders of the Department, he went to work and collected all whom he could induce to join him, and started with them west. The number he afterwards reported to have taken west was two hundred and fifteen; but as the sub-agent for the New York Indians reported that only one hundred and fifty-three of those Indians went with him, any beyond that number must have been from Canada, who, according to the instructions, should have been excluded.

No intelligence of these unauthorized proceedings was received until the party was a considerable distance on the route, and hence there was not time sufficient for making those preliminary arrangements which were requisite for their reception and comfortable accommodation in their new country. In consequence of this circumstance, and of the season being unusually warm and unhealthy, they have suffered considerably from sickness and death. By instructions on several occasions, as the facts became known, the Department did all in its power to remedy the evils to which they were thus subjected. Copies of those instructions, and extracts from the letters to the emigrating agent, are appended—A, B, C, and D.

In consequence of the uncomfortable situation in which these Indians found themselves, a portion of them (number not known) became dissatisfied, and have recently returned or are on their way back to New York.

During the past year, treaties have been made with the Kanzas Indians; the kindred bands of Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies; the Cherokees; the Comanche, and nine other tribes and their associate bands of the wild Indians of the southwestern prairies, and with the Winnebagoes. The three first were ratified by the Senate; the fourth was submitted to that body, but for want of time, it is supposed, not acted on; the last will be submitted at the approaching session.

By the treaty with the Kanzas, two millions of acres in the eastern portion of their country were purchased, of which five hundred and seventy-six thousand acres are set apart for the future home of the Chippewas, Ot-

towas, and Pottawatomies. It was chiefly with a view to this arrangement, and the location of other tribes, as well as to create a small fund for the support and improvement of the Kanzas, that their surplus lands were purchased.

By the treaty with the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, they sold to the government their two separate reservations—one in Iowa, the other on the Osage river, west of the State of Missouri—containing together about six millions of acres; and they agreed to remove within two year after the ratification of the treaty to their new home in the Kanzas country. For some time past these Indians, though of the same stock, speaking the same language, and united by the ties of kindred, have been separated and had different and, to some extent, unequal interests, which gave rise to jealousy and dissatisfaction. They are now, in accordance with their wishes, to have a common home, where they may reunite with common and equal interests, which will render them much better contented, and the relations between them and the government more simple, satisfactory and economical. This treaty embraces an entirely new principle, by which, after a certain period, should there be any decrease in the number of the tribe, their annuities are to diminish in proportion, so that their general interests and resources will remain the same in proportion to numbers, instead of increasing with any decrease of the tribe. The operation of this principle will, it is believed, be salutary. The practice has been to stipulate a fixed sum for the annuities of the different tribes with which treaties have been made, so that in case of a decline in numbers the general and individual interests of those remaining are proportionately increased. The greater the resources of a tribe the greater the hope and chance of gain by whiskey sellers and other interested and avaricious persons; and hence the inducement to such persons to encourage dissipation and debauchery among the Indians, calculated to engender disease, and to shorten and destroy life, when the resources of the survivors would be thereby augmented, and their chances of gain increased. Hence, also, the liability of those of a tribe not addicted to such self-destructive habits, feeling less interest in, and making less exertion for, the welfare of their more unfortunate brethren, by whose deaths they would be benefited During even the limited time I have been charged with the administration of the affairs of this Department, I have become satisfied that there is no evil so great to which a tribe can be subjected as the possession of resources, not the fruit of their own industry and frugality, in the form of large and extravagant annuities. They lead to indolence and to other habits, which not only prevent their moral and social improvement, but tend eventually to their corruption and diminution, if not extermination. When misapplied or withheld for their own benefit by the chiefs, into whose hands they are by law made payable, as is more or less liable to be the case, dissatisfaction, and even strife and bloodshed may be the result. When duly paid over to all those entitled, the Indian, who is naturally improvident and has little regard for money when it comes into his possession, after supplying his temporary wants, has the means of living for a time, independent of industry or exertion, in idleness and profligacy, until the indisposition to labor or the habit of intemperance becomes so strong, that he degenerates into a wretched outcast, and eventually parts even with his actual necessaries in order still longer to avoid exertion for a subsistence or to obtain the means of further indulgence in drink; thus

reducing himself to a state of the greatest want and suffering. It would be far better for every tribe if the means at their own disposal, which are not derived from their own industry, were sufficient only to satisfy such actual necessities and wants as they could not provide for by their own exertions; so that they would have no surplus to tempt them into idle and dissipated habits, or to make them victims to be preyed upon by depraved and avaricious whites.

In the negotiation of the treaty under consideration, other new and important principles were acted on. The government declined to assume any of their debts or to interfere in any way with the relation of debtor and creditor. It also declined to make any special or individual grants or reservations of land, thus avoiding the great labor and care which would be thrown on the Department by the location and sale of such grants, as well as the odium of any apparent partiality in favor of those to whom they might have been made.

The treaty with the Cherokees, which was made with the representatives of the three parties into which those people have for some years been divided, and between whom, as is well known, the most unfortunate differences have existed, so far appears to have been productive of the happiest effects. All parties seem to have united to carry out in good faith the judicious provisions of the treaty; to forget ancient feuds and past misunderstandings; to re-establish their original relations of good fellowship; and to resume the progress in civilization and prosperity for which they have heretofore been so highly distinguished. Since the provisions of the treaty were generally made known in the country, not a murder or outrage, unfortunately of frequent occurrence previously, has been reported. Measures are in progress for making the settlement with the Cherokees, required by this treaty, on account of the expenditures under that of 1835–'6, and the Department hopes to complete it in a satisfactory manner at an early period in the approaching session of Congress.

The treaty with the Comanche and other wild Indians of the prairies, provides for a good understanding between them and our government and citizens, and the friendly Indians on our borders; and for the manner of conducting our relations with them. These Indians are of a wandering and mischievous disposition, and have it in their power to inflict much injury upon our frontier citizens. In their predatory excursions they have not only committed numerous murders and carried off and destroyed much property, but they have been in the habit of taking captive women and children with the view of obtaining a ransom for them, and when this has not been realized, the situation of these captives has been deplorable; being subjected to a life of much hardship, and but too frequently to great cruelty and outrage. The treaty provides a remedy for these evils; and it is believed that its principal and most important provisions could be carried into effect in a manner satisfactory to the Indians, at a comparatively trifling expense to the government. It is to be regretted that there was not time to act upon it at the last session, as the Indians may become dissatisfied with the delay in the fulfilment of some of its stipulations and be disposed to resume their former mischievous habits. With the view of preventing this, as far as possible, it was deemed prudent to send an agent from Texas, with whom they are acquainted, to meet them, in order to explain the causes of the non-fulfilment of the treaty, and to counsel them to remain peaceable and to abstain from the commission of any outrages. Of the re-

sult of this mission there has not been time to hear. It is hoped that the treaty will be taken up and acted on by the Senate at an early period of the next session. The detailed report of the commissioners who negotiated it was not completed in season to be laid before that body previous to adjournment, but it will be submitted to Congress at an early day next session, under a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 10th of August last.

The treaty with the Winnebagoes, if ratified, will secure to the government all the remaining lands of those Indians in Iowa, which, including those they possessed the right to use as hunting grounds, are estimated at about four millions of acres, most of it of excellent quality. These lands, and those purchased of the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, comprise a large body said to be well suited to settlement and cultivation, for which purposes they are beginning to be required, in consequence of the rapid increase of population in the new and flourishing State of Iowa. On the removal of the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, and the Winnebagoes, which may be accomplished at furthest in the course of two years, that State will be almost entirely freed from an Indian population, which has already been a source of great annoyance and dissatisfaction to her citizens; and the Indians will be placed beyond the reach of those evils and influences, growing out of the contact and pressure of a white population, which almost always has proved more or less injurious to their prosperity and welfare. Efforts were made in the negotiation with the Winnebagoes to induce them to consent to remove south of the Missouri river, under the belief that a better and more comfortable home could there be found for them; but to this they positively refused to consent, seeming to be prejudiced against going in that direction, and to prefer a location on the Upper Mississippi among the Sioux or Chippewas. The treaty provides for their location north of the river St. Peters, and it will be greatly to their interest to select one sufficiently distant to be beyond the reach of the white population, which, before many years, will probably settle upon and fill up a country adjoining and north of Iowa sufficient in extent for another State; so that their new location may be permanent, and the government be relieved from any future interference between them and the citizens of the United States.

The Chippewas of the Mississippi and lake Superior still own a considerable extent of country east of that river and in the vicinity of that lake. A portion is said to be so well adapted to agricultural purposes, and a part so rich in minerals and ores, that it will probably at an early day attract a considerable white population. The principal means of subsistence of these Indians is the chase: they are widely dispersed, so that but little supervision can be exercised over them, and hence ardent spirits can be introduced among them with facility and little risk of detection. While they remain in their present situation, but little if any thing can be done to give them the benefit of the benevolent policy of the government for the improvement of the Indian race. Until a change shall have been effected in the feelings and disposition of a tribe, and their wandering and unsettled habits shall have begun to give way to some more settled and regular mode of life, there is but a barren field for the moral and intellectual teacher. Such a change can be brought about only by concentrating them within fixed and reasonable limits, where they are given to understand that they are to reside permanently, and where they will reap the benefit

of any arrangements they may make for their subsistence and comfort. Game will soon become scarce, and they will be compelled gradually to resort to agriculture and other pursuits of civilized life, when a fruitful opening will be afforded for efforts for their moral, intellectual, and social improvement. By being concentrated, ardent spirits can also to a much greater extent be kept from amongst them. The purchase of the lands of the Chippewas east, and their removal to those owned by them west, of the Upper Mississippi, which are believed to be ample for their accommodation, and suited to their condition and wants, would be the first and necessary step towards bringing about those desirable results among these people For further information as to the expediency of negotiating with them for their lands east of the Mississippi, I respectfully refer to the reports of Governor Dodge, W. A. Richmond, and their sub-agent, J. P. Hays, numbered 4, 6, and 7.

An appropriation of two thousand dollars was made at the late session of Congress for defraying the expenses of a negotiation with the Menomonie Indians for their lands in Wisconsin. In all such cases, recently, the Department, before appointing commissioners to negotiate, has deemed it proper, in order to proceed understandingly and to avoid a useless expenditure of public money, to obtain all the information that could be procured in reference to the fair value of the lands desired to be purchased, the disposition of the Indians to treat, where they would prefer a future location, and such other particulars as would indicate whether a negotiation would probably be successful, and what would be the most judicious and economical mode of proceeding in it. If such information clearly indicates that an attempt at negotiation would be unsuccessful, it would be useless and improper to expend the public money in making it. If the contrary, the Department is then enabled to give precise and specific instructions, so as to relieve the person or persons selected to conduct the negotiation from an onerous and embarrassing discretion, and to ensure that the terms of the treaty shall be such as the Executive can sanction, and feel justified in recommending to the favorable consideration of the Senate. Being without such information with respect to the Menomonies, Governor Dodge was requested to procure and furnish it. From his partial reply and subsequent annual report, No. 4, there appears to be no prospect of a negotiation with those Indians being successful unless conducted in this city, and provision be made for their half-breed relatives, and for the payment of their debts; as those relatives and the creditors exercise a controlling influence over them. The appropriation is insufficient to defray the expenses of a delegation to this place, including the necessary outfit and presents, and the resolution of the Senate of March 3, 1843, precludes any provision in a treaty for the payment of Indian debts—a resolution which has been strictly adhered to in all recent negotiations.

An unfortunate misunderstanding has for some time past existed among a portion of the New York Indians. On the application of these Indians, the legislature of New York, in March, 1845, passed an act for their improvement, which gave them a municipal organization and more distinctly and satisfactorily defined the relations between them and the people of the State generally. It prescribes the manner of determining who were to be recognised as chiefs; that the names of those so recognised should be recorded; and it provided for the appointment of municipal officers, and amongst others a treasurer, who should give bond and security for the

faithful performance of his duties, one of which, under the law, is "to receive all moneys belonging to the nation, and to expend the same according to the directions of a majority of the chiefs in council." After the passage of the law the chiefs assembled, their names were duly recorded, and the several officers provided for, appointed. Subsequently, a portion of the chiefs of the Cattaraugus reservation, from some cause not satisfactorily understood, became dissatisfied with the organization under the State law, and caused their names to be erased from the record. These chiefs and their partisans are represented to comprise nearly one-half of the head-men, warriors, and others, of the Indians on this reservation. There thus became a law and an anti-law party. Each had contracted debts for which they were liable, and were therefore anxious to obtain the control of the annuities due from the general government, in order to be sure of the means of meeting these liabilities. With the earnest co-operation of the Society of Friends—who for some years have taken a deep interest in the welfare of these Indians, and expended much money, and made great exertions for their benefit and improvement—the Department did all in its power to reconcile the antagonist parties. Among other means resorted to, was the withholding of their annuities, the receipt of which at an early period was of importance to them; but this, and all efforts for the purpose, proved unavailing. Under these circumstances, the Department came to the determination to regard the officers who had been elected and appointed in conformity with the State law, and the chiefs whose names remained on record, as the only duly constituted and legal authorities of these people. This course seemed the more proper, as it was in accordance with the spirit of the State law, and the counsellor appointed by the State, for the benefit of the Indians, had given the opinion that the law had "been legally adopted by the nation, and that the officers, who now hold their appointments under it, were duly and constitutionally elected, and have a right to execute it; and that any resistance to them in the lawful execution of their duty would be criminal." The Department therefore decided to place the annuities in the hands of the treasurer of the nation, but with the stipulation that all the just debts of both parties should be paid which were of the character of those it had been customary to pay out of their annuities. At the desire of the Indians of the law-party themselves, the Department also required its agent to see that the money and goods were fairly distributed among all of both parties who were entitled to share in them, so that there could be no just ground of complaint from any quarter. Time sufficient has not yet elapsed to be informed of the result. The Indians of the Allegany reservation are all well satisfied with the organization under the law, and are living contentedly and harmoniously under the operation of its beneficial provisions.

Under the 4th section of the act of 27th June last, a person was appointed to "ascertain what annuities or moneys have been wrongfully withholden from the Seneca Indians, by the late sub-agent of the United States, and so lost to them." The best time for entering upon this investigation was when the Indians assembled to receive their annuities, the payment of which was deferred in consequence of the difficulties before adverted to. This has also, no doubt, delayed the investigation and the report of the result, which has not yet reached the Department. When received it will be submitted to Congress as required by law.

In conformity with the 2d section of the act mentioned, the United

States stock, amounting to seventy-five thousand dollars, held in trust for the Seneca Indians, has been cancelled and the Indians credited with that amount, upon which they are to be paid annually an interest of five per cent.

The 3d section of the same act authorizes the President to receive the amount held in trust for the Senecas by the Ontario Bank of New York, and to deposite it in the Treasury to the credit of those Indians, whenever they shall authorize such transfer. The amount held by the bank is forty-three thousand and fifty dollars, upon which an interest of six per cent is paid to the Indians annually, being one per cent more than the act provides shall be paid by the United States in case of the transfer. The agent was instructed to acquaint the Indians, at the annuity payment, with the provisions of the law, and to ascertain their wishes on this subject. A report from him in relation to it has not yet been received.

Circumstances have prevented the surveying and marking of the northern and western boundary lines of the Creek country, and the western line of the cession made by the Kanzas in their late treaty, for which appropriations were made at the late session of Congress. In the first, the supervision of Major Armstrong, the acting superintendent of the western territory, was necessary, which could not be had in consequence of his exclusive attention being required by other important duties. In order to save expense, it was the intention that both of the surveys referred to should be made by an officer of the topographical engineers, and with this object in view it was important to obtain a plat and the field notes of the original survey of the Kanzas country, by which the cross line could be run without the delay and cost of retracing the exterior lines of the whole country, or the greater portion of them, so as to be able properly to fix the cross line. No plat or field notes being found in the Department, it was supposed that the gentleman who made the survey had them in his possession. An application was therefore addressed to him on the subject, to which no answer was received, and it became too late in the season to proceed in the business. Measures will be adopted to have both surveys made as early as practicable next year.

The governor of Wisconsin was duly notified of the provisions of the act of 6th August last, restoring the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin, who had previously been made citizens of the United States, to their former position and Indian form of government, except such as desired to remain citizens of the United States, who were to be enrolled by the Indian sub-agent at Green Bay, under the direction of the governor of the territory. The act also required the sub-agent to divide the country owned by the Stockbridges between the two parties, in proportion to numbers. How far these duties have been executed is not known, as no report has yet been made on the subject.

As required by a law of the last session of Congress, the balance due to the Wyandott Indians for their improvements in Ohio, according to their first appraisement by Messrs. Kirby and Walker, has been paid to the several persons entitled thereto. This has been done by special agents, without expense to the United States or any deduction from the amounts due to the claimants.

Under the act of the last session, requiring a census and statistics of the several Indian tribes to be taken, instructions and forms were prepared and sent to the different agents, upon whom the law imposes the execution of

the duty. But few reports on the subject have reached the Department, and the others cannot now be received in time to accompany this report. When they shall all have come in, a special report will, if required, be made on the subject.

The remittance of the annuity and other moneys annually payable to the Indians, was delayed this year beyond the usual time, in consequence of the provision in the 1st section of the act of 27th June last, that no further sums should be placed in the hands of any superintendent or agent until his accounts for the previous year had been settled, and he had satisfactorily shown that all balances in his hands in favor of the government were ready to be paid over on the order of the Department. The accounts for the previous year had all been settled; but it necessarily took some time to obtain from the different superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, the requisite evidence that the balances were ready to be paid over on demand, in the proper description of funds. I am happy to state that the evidence on these points was, in every case, satisfactory. The delay in the remittance of the annuities, thus occasioned, caused inconvenience to some of the more distant tribes, particularly the Chippewas of lake Superior and the Upper Mississippi, as the payment at so late a period interfered somewhat with their going on their fall hunts, and other arrangements for procuring subsistence and necessaries for the winter.

Statements E and F show the amounts invested in stocks for Indian tribes, and those not so invested but held in trust for them, and on which they are annually paid an interest by the United States.

The amounts applicable to expenditure in this branch of the public service, under the various heads of appropriation, and those drawn therefrom during the fiscal year ending the 30th June last, will be shown by the annual statement of the appropriations and expenditures required by law, and furnished to Congress by the Second Comptroller of the Treasury, through the Secretary of War. The particular application of the moneys expended will be exhibited by the report of the Second Auditor, under the 13th section of the act of June 30th, 1834, organizing this Department, which requires copies of the accounts of "all persons whatsoever charged or trusted with the disbursement or application of money, goods, or effects of any kind, for the benefit of the Indians, to be annually laid before Congress by the proper accounting officers."

On examining the statement furnished, by the Treasury Department, of the balances under various heads of appropriation remaining unexpended on the 30th June last, it was found that many of them were of long standing and for a greater period than that limited by the 10th section of the act of 30th March, 1795, which provides that, with certain exceptions, all appropriations that have existed for more than two years after the expiration of the calendar year in which they were made, if not for purposes in respect to which a longer duration is specially assigned by law, shall be deemed to have ceased and been determined. In regard to balances of appropriations made for the purpose of carrying into effect the stipulations of Indian treaties, which require a longer period than two years, the Attorney General decided, in February, 1839, that they were not of the class which, under the act of 1795, should be considered as having terminated after the expiration of the two years. The accumulation of old balances on the books of the treasury having, however, been so fruitful a source of confusion and perplexity in the appropriation accounts, and led to the constant

bringing up of old claims against the government, which, though generally unfounded, require much time and trouble to decide, (which should be bestowed on important matters of current business,) it was deemed best, for these and other reasons, to cancel all such balances that were not in whole or in part required for expenditure within the present fiscal year. Should it hereafter be found that any of these balances will be wanted, Congress can be asked to re-appropriate them; and by this course that body will be better advised of, and can exercise a more rigid supervision over, the annual expenditures of the Department, than if those expenditures were, as heretofore, to a considerable extent, made from old balances. Of the amount of these balances under appropriations which have remained upon the books of the treasury for two years, and reported to this office as applicable to the surplus fund, there was designated as no longer required for the objects for which the appropriations were made the sum of $540,448 81; $442,676 70 of which has been cancelled, leaving a balance of $97,772 11, which the Comptroller decided, it seems, to withhold from the operation of the surplus fund law. In addition to the above, there has also been designated of the appropriations generally applicable to this branch of the service, the sum of $565,781, making the whole amount of the balances under appropriations thus designated by this office to be cancelled, $1,106,229 81.

It having been found that in some cases balances under old heads of appropriation, to an amount exceeding, it is believed, $100,000, had accumulated in the hands of agents, peremptory instructions were some time since given to refund all such balances to the Treasury, except so much only as will be absolutely required for expenditure within the present fiscal year, in order that the money may be applicable to other necessary purposes of the government.

In my report of last year, I stated that the claims of Choctaws to land under the 14th and 19th articles of the treaty of 1830, reported upon by the commission which expired by limitation on the 17th of June, 1845, so far as you concurred in the judgment of the commissioners, had been acted on by this office, with the view of placing in the possession of the various Indian claimants the evidence of the admission and settlement of their claims. The cases in which you differed with the commissioners were those in which the testimony showed that the claimants had been dispossessed of their improvements by white men before the expiration of five years from the ratification of the treaty, and not by the sale of their land by the government. As construed by the Department, the law admitted claims of the latter class only. The attorneys for the Indians being dissatisfied with this view, the question at issue was submitted for the opinion of the Attorney General. His opinion, which to some extent modified the construction of the Department, was received on the 4th of August last; and, as soon as Congress adjourned, I commenced the investigation of the claims supposed to be affected thereby. This investigation led to the admission of three hundred and seventy, and the rejection of three hundred and ninety-six claims.

Upon the adjournment of Congress, I also proceeded, under the joint resolution of August 3, 1846, to examine the claims of the Su-quah-natch-ah and other clans of the Choctaw Indians, which were left undetermined by the commissioners for the want of the township maps.

The number of these cases was three hundred and thirty-eight; of which one hundred and seventy-one were admitted, twenty-five suspended for further information, and one hundred and forty-two rejected.

The disposition of these two classes of claims, and of a few which had previously been admitted by your two immediate predecessors, but not consummated at the time, enabled the Department to transmit to its agent, for delivery to the Indian claimants, seven hundred and fourteen pieces of scrip, viz: two hundred and fifteen for heads of families, two hundred and forty-six for children over, and two hundred and fifty-three for those under, ten years of age, at the date of the treaty. This scrip is for one-half of the claims only. In the aggregate, they amount to 256,800 acres of land; equal in value, at $1 25 per acre, to $321,000.

A very large number of claims for land purchased of reservees under the various treaties, have been examined and disposed of during the past year. All deeds and other contracts proved to have been honestly and fairly made, and the consideration shown to have been adequate and actually paid, have been approved and transmitted to the parties entitled, or to the General Land Office, as the case required: some have been retained for further evidence, and the others rejected.

The final settlement of the question of jurisdiction, and the increasing importance of that remote but interesting country, will render it necessary to make some provision for conducting our relations with the Indian tribes west of the Rocky mountains, for whom there are now no agents of any grade or description. A sub-agent, it will be recollected, was appointed some time since to visit these tribes, and, from personal observation and inquiry, obtain such information as would enable the Department to suggest suitable measures for extending over them the benevolent and fostering care of the government. His reports, extracts from which accompanied my last annual communication, developed the resources and other advantages of the country, as well as the capacity and general inclination of the Indians to engage in the various pursuits of agriculture and the mechanic arts. This gentleman having returned last winter, and the whole subject having been laid before Congress, it was not deemed advisable to continue a service that was circumscribed in its objects, and originally designed to be temporary.

Some provision should also be made for the protection and security of our citizens, and the maintenance of peaceful relations with the various tribes, within the boundaries of Texas. The necessity for some action of this kind is greatly increased by the events which are now transpiring on the borders of that State.

These tribes are of a roving and unstable disposition, and are probably among the most barbarous and least civilized portions of the Indian race Their position and present relations towards the general government are anomalous, and not altogether free from embarrassment and difficulty. The lands which they occupy, as well as most of the other rights they enjoy, are under the control and legislative authority of the State, and it is questionable whether the intercourse act, and other laws for the government and regulation of Indian affairs, can be extended to these people without interfering with the local jurisdiction of Texas. The mischievous habits of these Indians, and the influence they exert among the neighboring tribes, as well as a proper regard for the security of our own citizens, who have already suffered so much from their predatory and marauding excursions, will commend this subject to the attention and early consideration of Congress.

The cause of education has received that attention which its great im-

portance would appear to demand. Its advantages and meliorating influences are beginning to be seen and felt in the forests and among the savages, as well as among the more cultivated regions and enlightened circles of our country. The direction which has recently been given to the system, by combining with letters a knowledge of agriculture and the mechanic arts, has opened a new era in the progress of Indian civilization. The prejudices which existed against schools, and which have hitherto been regarded as an almost insuperable barrier to the intellectual improvement of the red man, are fast giving way before the evidences by which he is surrounded, in the increased happiness and prosperity which are every where apparent to his view; and many of the tribes are now petitioning for the establishment among them of institutions, the introduction of which they would once have opposed as injurious to the character and interests of their people. Reports have not yet been received from all the superintendents and teachers in the Indian country, but those that have come to hand give the most favorable and gratifying accounts of the condition of the various schools under their care.

The Choctaws are manifesting a most extraordinary zeal in the advancement of this great cause. With a liberality which is truly commendable, and which, it is hoped, may soon be imitated by other tribes, they have set apart and agreed to apply $18,000 of their annuity money, in addition to the $8,500 expressly provided by treaty, and $2,000 furnished from the civilization fund, to the education of their youth. They have already among them three academies, besides several small schools for boys, and no less than five seminaries for the instruction of females, all of which have been placed under the immediate charge and management of the Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist churches. Contributions are also made from these societies, amounting in the aggregate to about $2,000. The importance of these institutions, and the extent of their operations, will be seen from the large amount which is thus annually expended in their management and support. All these schools are conducted on the principle alluded to, of combining letters with manual labor, and are shown, by the report of the experienced and efficient agent of the Department, as well as by those of the teachers, to be in a most flourishing condition. The farms cultivated by the boys are said to have produced sufficient corn the past year for the consumption of the schools. The females are taught sewing, knitting, ornamental needle work, and the various duties of the household and dairy, in addition to the usual and ordinary branches of a common school education.

Arrangements are in progress to establish two manual labor schools among the Creeks, at distant and suitable points, and one among the Chickasaws, who, imitating the example, and to some extent the liberality of the Choctaws, have set apart and appropriated, by an act of their council, the sum of $6,000, to be annually applied to its support. Arrangements were also made, some time since, for the establishment of a manual labor school among the Osages. The buildings have been erected, and the other improvements are so far completed as to render it probable that the institution will be put into operation about the first of January. It has been placed under the charge of the Catholic Missionary Society at St. Louis. The manual labor school at Fort Leavenworth, under the superintendency of the Methodist Episcopal Society, and that of the Friends in the same agency, have been eminently successful in advancing the great objects for which they were respectively established. The Choctaw

academy, in Kentucky, is reported to be in a flourishing and highly satisfactory condition; and the pupils, many of whom are boys of much promise and influence among their respective tribes, are making great proficiency in the arts of civilization, and such literary attainments as are deemed most essential to their future usefulness.

The other schools from which reports have been received are also represented to be in a prosperous condition, and to be exerting a happy and beneficial influence in reforming the habits and improving the situation of the Indians.

The general introduction of manual labor schools among the Indians, and the purchase of such tools and agricultural implements as are necessary for their management and successful operation, will be attended with much expense, and will require all the funds that are in any way applicable to objects of education. A portion of these funds has heretofore been applied to the education of boys at literary institutions in the various States, and even to the preparation of some of them for the practice of the learned professions; and although important advantages have thereby resulted in the diffusion of information among the different tribes, yet it is believed that the money can now be more beneficially expended at the homes and in the midst of the Indian people. The prejudices of the red man will be thus more easily overcome, and the benefits extended alike to both sexes of the tribe.

In manual labor schools a knowledge of letters will go hand in hand with the acquirement of a practical use of the tools of the artisan and the implements of the farmer. Those which have already been established in the Indian country afford abundant evidence of the advantages of the system, and its superiority over any other plan of education for the Indians which has yet been tried or suggested. To induce the untutored savage to enter upon any new course of conduct, or to adopt any plan of operation, or of subsistence, different from that to which he has always been accustomed, you must convince his senses that some beneficial result is certainly to follow. He must experience the advantages, in order to appreciate them. Let him merely look on and observe the white man laboring in his fields and maturing his crops, and he learns comparatively nothing; but place in his hands the plough, the axe, and the hoe, and teach him how to use them; let him see the product of his labor in the abundant yield of the necessaries and comforts of life; and then, and not till then, can you exemplify to him the difference between the civilized and the savage state. Let him sit down amidst his family and his people during the inclemency of winter, surrounded by the fruits of his labor, raised at a more congenial season, and he will soon be able to appreciate the difference between the hard and precarious life of a hunter and that of an agriculturist. Thus, by making popular, through these means, one of the objects in view—and this not the least important to the Indian—the other will increase in estimation, by the evidences it will soon furnish of the mental elevation of the educated Indian, when compared with his uninstructed associate.

The reports of the different superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, indicate that there has been some improvement in the condition and affairs of the Indians generally during the past year, though in many instances there has been an increase in the traffic and use of ardent spirits. Were it not for the almost uncontrollable propensity of the Indians generally for this destructive article, especially among the less civilized, and the facility

with which it continues to be supplied to them by abandoned and unprincipled white men, in defiance of law and all the exertions of the Department and its agents, the progress of the various tribes in civilization, and in the resources and comforts of civilized life, would be far greater. Whiskey is the greatest obstacle to their rapid moral and social elevation, and no means should be spared to break up the traffic in it, now and heretofore so extensively and injuriously carried on among the Indians, principally by the description of persons mentioned. In former reports from this office, the inadequacy of existing laws to effect this object has been adverted to; and a sense of duty, as well as the dictates of humanity, impel me again to call attention to the subject.

Under the present laws, the only penalty for introducing liquor into the Indian country, and selling or bartering it to the Indians, is, in the former case, a forfeiture of the article if found, and in the latter a fine if convicted of the offence. The profits of the traffic are so great that the risk of detection and loss of the article is, and will be, incurred without hesitation; and the fine is of little or no effect, because such persons rarely, if ever, possess any available property or means by which the fine can be recovered. I agree with my predecessor, that a much more effective remedy would be found in an amendment of the present trade and intercourse law, by which the offence would be made criminal, and the persons convicted of it subjected to imprisonment for such time as Congress may prescribe, or the court, in view of the circumstances and extent or criminality of the offence, might in their discretion think proper.

According to your directions, a circular was issued on the 2d of October last, and copies sent to all the superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, informing them that hereafter no powers of attorney from Indians to white persons would be recognised, nor any money be paid upon them; but that all claims of Indians must be presented to the Department through the proper agent, when they would be promptly acted on, and the sums found due to the claimants be paid to them at their homes, without any deduction for expenses or for the collection of the amount. This measure was deemed necessary and proper, in order to prevent advantage being taken of the ignorance or necessities of the Indians, by persons who sometimes purchase their claims for a mere nominal consideration, or who make excessive and unreasonable charges for collecting them.

This office is about entering upon a revision of the general regulations, prescribed in 1837, for the management of its general business, which, in consequence of change of circumstances, and of new elements of business having arisen, have, in some measure, become obsolete or inapplicable to the present condition of things, and therefore require alteration and amendment.

Under the regulations recently prescribed for this office, a new classification and assignment of its business among the clerks has been made, which it is expected will lead to its being more promptly and satisfactorily despatched. The new classes and more perfect system of records which these regulations require, will also, it is believed, produce greater facility and accuracy in the transaction of its business.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. L. Marcy,
Secretary of War.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

ACCOMPANYING THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Reports of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents.

School and farm reports.

APPENDIX.

A.

Extracts from instructions of the War Department and Office of Indian Affairs to Abraham Hogeboom, superintendent of the emigration of a party of New York Indians.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *September* 12, 1845.

SIR: There is an existing treaty between the United States and the several tribes of Indians residing in New York, by which the government agree to superintend and pay the expenses of their emigration to the country beyond the Mississippi, set apart in said treaty for them. An arrangement has been made with a delegation now here, to send out a party this autumn, provided two hundred and fifty will actually go. In case this number should agree to emigrate, (and the President is assured by the delegation which has been here that they will,) it is necessary to send an emigrating agent with them, to accompany them to their new home in the Indian country. My object in now writing to you is to offer you this agency. They say that a party to the number of 250 will be ready to leave in the fore part of October.

The government will not undertake the emigration of these Indians unless two hundred and fifty of them now residing in the State of New York, exclusive of Canada Indians, shall muster themselves and actually go with the agent.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, *October* 2, 1845.

SIR: Your letter of the 20th ultimo, addressed to the Secretary of War, has been received and referred to this office.

I enclose herewith the copies of two letters—one addressed to the Indian chief, and the other to Mr. Osborne, the sub-agent at Buffalo—from which you will learn all that is contemplated by the Department in relation to this matter. Two hundred and fifty Indians is the smallest number that will be emigrated; and as soon as you can learn that there are that number prepared to start, and will inform this office thereof, instructions and money will be sent to you.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *November* 4, 1845.

SIR: The object of the government is, and has been, to encourage the emigration of the New York Indians; but not discovering a disposition on their part to go in any considerable numbers, it has not been thought expedient to countenance the removal of small bands, on account of the expense; and more particularly as it would not contribute but in a very small degree to the desirable end—the emigration of the whole body. A delegation lately appeared here and assured the President that at least 250 were willing to remove this fall. The government complied with the wishes of the delegation, on the express condition that that number would enrol themselves and go to the new home provided for them. You were selected as emigrating agent, and to act only in the event that 250 would go. This condition was explained to you when you were offered the appointment; but this number not being found willing to emigrate this fall, the measure of course falls through, for the present at least.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
December 8, 1845.

SIR: The Department has been much disappointed in the course the business has taken in relation to the removal of the New York Indians. When the delegation was here, it was understood that the number required, 250 *New York Indians,* would be ready to emigrate immediately after the 4th of October.

Your letter of October apprized the Department that the required number was not enrolled, and the reply of the Secretary of War to you was written on the supposition that the effort had entirely failed; but your subsequent letter stated that more than the number required had agreed to emigrate, and would be ready to set out on the 20th of November. Though the Department thought this very late, yet, as it might be in season for transporting them by water, it was concluded to let the emigration go forward six days after, viz: the 26th November. We are apprized that the party had not gone, as you then wrote for assistance, and it is presumed that the Indians will not leave until you get a response to that application.

Though authority was given for one assistant, it is very evident the party cannot go by water. Indeed, it is so late that it is not possible to have the advantages of water communication.

When the delegation were here, there was not a thought entertained that any other mode was to be resorted to; and it was only upon the ground that they would be ready to go by water that the government engaged to attempt the emigration; and it will not change the mode, attended, as a change must be, by a large additional expense. The Indians that were here, understood the views of the government on this point, and spoke of an emigration in the spring, provided they should not get ready in requisite numbers to go in the then approaching autumn.

As the lakes and rivers will be frozen, the removal will be of course given up for the present.

The New York Indians only were to be emigrated, and the requisite number (250) were to be composed exclusively of New York Indians. We have no report on that point.

B.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, June 10, 1846.

SIR: Information has recently been received at this office that A. Hogeboom has started for St. Louis with a party of New York Indians, in number about 200. This act of starting with a less number than 250, in connexion with the recent action of this office, looking to a suspension of the emigration for a time, was wholly unauthorized, and of course unexpected; but as the party are without the reach of the Department, measures must be taken to subsist them. I have, therefore, to request that you will give directions to the Osage sub-agent to invite proposals, and enter into contract, for their subsistence for twelve months, as contemplated in my instructions to you of 14th November, 1845, to which you are referred.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent &c., St. Louis, Mo.

C.

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, September 30, 1846.

Sir: Enclosed are copies of a letter and enclosure from Philip E. Thomas, of Baltimore, a member of the Society of Friends, who for some years have taken a deep and active interest in the welfare of the New York Indians; and also a copy of my answer thereto, in relation to the condition of the party of those Indians removed west by Doctor Hogeboom. Relying on your active and efficient supervision over all the affairs of your superintendency, the Department has felt no apprehension as to the situation of those people, and now feels confident that, as stated in the letter to Mr. Thomas, they can have undergone no material degree of hardship, or it would have been reported. Still, in order to quiet the apprehensions of their friends in New York, it is deemed proper to call your particular attention to the subject; to request that you will cause the sub-agent, under whose charge they are, to do all in his power for their comfort, and to report to the Department any measures which should be adopted therefor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

Thomas H. Harvey, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

D.

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, October 29, 1846.

Sir: I transmit herewith a copy of a letter just received from James Cusick, one of the party of New York Indians removed west last summer by Doctor Hogeboom, from which it appears that there has been much sickness and mortality among these Indians, and that they are in a distressed situation.

It is presumed that, in accordance with the instructions from this office to you of the 10th June last, measures were duly taken for the subsistence of the Indians in question, and that the sufferings they may have undergone, must have arisen from want of clothing and medical assistance, of which this office has had no advice.

It was with some difficulty that any satisfactory data could be obtained by which to determine the amount to which these Indians are entitled, under existing treaties, in common with their brethren remaining east; and, though attended with some uncertainty, a division has been fixed upon, which gives to them the following sums:

For the sixty-two Senecas that removed, out of permanent annuity of $6,000, per act of 19th February, 1831, the sum of -	$142 91
For the same, out of $5,805, being amount of interest on investments due 1st July last, per 3d and 5th articles of treaty of 20th May, 1842, the sum of - - - - - - -	138 26
For the whole party removed west, in common, out of the permanent annuity of $4,500, per 6th article treaty of 11th November, 1794, the sum of - - - - - - -	197 48
Making - - - - -	478 65

For which a requisition has issued in your favor, and which you will please expend for clothing, medicines, attendance, and such other purposes as you may judge best suited to their present condition and necessities. For the above sums you will account, severally, as follows: 1st. "Fulfilling treaties with the Senecas of New York, per act 3d March, 1845." 2d. "Trust fund, interest on investments to Senecas of New York;" and, 3d. "Fulfilling treaties with Six Nations of New York, per act 2d March, 1845."

Mr. Cusick's letter, supported as it is by the statement of Captain Burbank, is calculated to excite much anxiety on account of these Indians. They were removed contrary to the instructions and expectations of the Department at the time, and their having gone was not known until they were some distance on the route. There was, consequently, no opportunity for making the requisite preliminary arragements for their comfort and welfare on their arrival west. After giving you the instructions of June 10th, for their subsistence, much had to be left to the judgment and views of duty, under the circumstances, of yourself and the Osage sub-agent, under whose immediate supervision they came, in regard to what was further requisite to be done for them.

In my letter of the 30th ultimo, your attention was specially called to their situation, and no doubt is entertained that your answer to that communication will show that you have done, or caused to be done, all that could be, under the circumstances, for their relief. Should the amount now remitted not be sufficient to cover the expenses of what you have already done, or what it may, in your judgment, be further requisite to do for them, in addition to their subsistence, for which there is a special appropriation, you will please report promptly, accordingly, and the necessary funds will be furnished. Funds will also be remitted on account of their subsistence, when this office is informed that they are needed.

The $3,000 referred to by Mr. Cusick as due to the Tuscaroras, under the treaty of 1838, has never been appropriated by Congress. The proportion due to those west will be asked for at the approaching session, and when obtained will be promptly sent to them. With reference to the wish of these Indians to go to the Shawnee country, adverted to by Mr. Cusick, it was supposed that they had gone to the country of the Sandusky Senecas, as George Jemison and others, in a letter of 30th July last, stated that they had accepted an invitation to reside awhile with those people, (whose sub-agent had kindly undertaken to attend to their business and wants,) thinking their health would be thereby improved.

In a letter to you of the 9th ultimo, one of the same tenor and date having been addressed to Major Armstrong, your attention was called to an application of these people to be transferred from the Osage to the Neosho sub-agency, and your views thereon requested. No answer has been received to either communication.

At your earliest convenience please favor me with a reply to this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

THOS. H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Supt. Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

E.

Statement exhibiting the amount of investments for Indian account in State stocks, &c.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited, until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Cherokees - -	Kentucky	5	$94,000 00	-	$4,700 00	-	$94,000 00	-	Semi-ann'ly	New York	Treasury U. S.	Treaty of Dec., 1835.
Do - -	Tennessee	5	250,000 00	-	12,500 00	-	250,000 00	-	do	do	do	do
Do - -	Alabama	5	300,000 00	-	15,000 00	-	300,000 00	-	do	do	do	do
Do - -	Maryland	6	761 39	-	45 68	-	880 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	do
Do - -	Michigan	6	64,000 00	-	3,840 00	-	69,120 00	-	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
Do (education) -	Maryland	5	41,138 00	-	2,056 90	-	42,490 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Feb. 27, 1819.
Do - -	Missouri	5½	10,000 00	$759,899 39	550 00	$38,692 58	10,000 00	$766,490 00	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (mills.)	Maryland	6	130,850 43	-	7,851 02	-	150,000 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of Sept., 1833.
Do do -	Pennsylva.	5	28,300 00	-	1,415 00	-	21,257 50	-	Semi-ann'ly	Philadelphia	do	do
Do do -	U. S. loan, 1842	6	39,921 93	-	2,395 31	-	44,204 40	-	do	Washington	do	do
Do do -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	157 50	199,229 96	7 88	11,669 21	156 00	218,619 90	do	do	do	do
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (education.)	Indiana	5	68,000 00	-	3,400 00	-	72,264 09	-	do	New York	do	do
Do - -	Pennsylva.	5	8,500 00	-	425 00	-	7,352 50	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	5,556 71	82,056 71	333 40	4,158 40	6,016 05	85,632 64	do	Washington	do	do
Incompetent Chickasaws	Indiana	5	-	2,000 00	-	100 00	-	2,000 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of May, 1834.
Chickasaw orphans -	Arkansas	5	6,000 00	-	300 00	-	6,000 00	-	do	do	do	do
Do -	Pennsylva.	5	1,450 00	-	72 50	-	1,254 25	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
Do -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	433 68	7,883 68	26 02	398 52	508 01	7,762 26	do	Washington	do	do
Shawnees - -	Maryland	6	29,341 50	-	1,760 49	-	33,913 40	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	do	Treaty of August, 1831.
Do - -	Kentucky	5	1,000 00	-	50 00	-	980 00	-	Semi-ann'ly	New York	do	do
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	1,734 71	32,076 21	104 08	1,914 57	2,032 03	36,924 43	do	Washington	do	do
Senecas - -	Kentucky	5	-	5,000 00	-	250 00	-	4,900 00	do	New York	do	Treaty of Feb., 1831.
Senecas and Shawnees -	Kentucky	5	6,000 00	-	300 00	-	5,880 00	-	do	do	do	do
Do do -	Missouri	5½	7,000 00	13,000 00	385 00	685 00	7,121 87	13,001 87	do	do	do	do
Kansas schools - -	Missouri	5½	18,000 00	-	990 00	-	18,000 00	-	do	do	do	Treaty of June, 1825.
Do - -	Pennsylva.	5	2,000 00	-	100 00	-	1,730 00	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	2,700 00	-	135 00	-	2,727 27	-	do	Washington	do	do
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842	6	4,444 66	27,144 66	266 67	1,491 67	5,026 30	27,483 57	do	do	do	do
Menomonies - -	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	-	3,850 00	-	75,460 00	-	do	New York	do	Treaty of Sept., 1836.
Do - -	Pennsylva.	5	12,000 00	-	600 00	-	10,235 00	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,114 88	115,114 88	1,566 89	6,016 89	29,604 48	115,299 48	do	Washington	do	do
Chippewas and Ottowas	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	-	3,850 00	-	75,460 00	-	do	New York	do	Treaty of March, 1836.
Do do -	Michigan	6	3,000 00	-	180 00	-	3,000 00	-	do	do	do	do
Do do -	Pennsylva.	5	16,200 00	-	810 00	-	13,912 50	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
Do do -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	5,387 87	-	269 39	-	5,426 46	-	do	Washington	do	do
Do do -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	16,588 97	118,176 84	995 34	6,104 73	18,183 30	115,982 26	do	do	do	do
Creek orphans - -	Alabama	5	82,000 00	-	4,100 00	-	82,000 00	-	do	New York	do	Treaty of June, 1832.
Do - -	Missouri	5½	28,000 00	-	1,540 00	-	28,487 48	-	do	do	do	do
Do - -	Pennsylva.	5	16,000 00	-	800 00	-	13,840 00	-	do	Philadelphia	do	do
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	13,700 00	-	685 00	-	13,840 00	-	do	Washington	do	do
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	23,513 40	163,213 40	1,410 80	8,535 80	26,656 04	164,823 52	do	do	do	do

E.—*Statement exhibiting the amount of investments in State stocks, &c.*—Continued.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited, until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Choctaws, under convention with Chickasaws.	Alabama	5	-	$500,000 00	-	$25,000 00	-	$500,000 00	Semi-ann'ly	New Orleans	Treasury U S.	Treaty of Jan. 17, 1837.
Delawares, (education)	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	-	7,806 28	-	468 38	-	9,144 27	do	Washington	do	Treaty of 1838.
Osages, (education) -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	$7,400 00	-	$370 00	-	$7,474 74	-	do	do	do	Treaty of 1825.
Do - -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	24,679 56	32,079 56	1,480 77	1,850 77	27,656 76	35,131 50	do	do	do	do
Choctaw orphans -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	26,387 44	-	1,583 24	-	30,461 70	-	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
Do -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	23,109 09	49,496 53	1,155 45	2,738 69	23,312 16	53,773 86	do	do	do	do
Stockbridge & Munsees	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	-	5,204 16	-	312 25	-	6,096 16	do	do	do	Treaty of May, 1840.
Choctaws, (education) -	U. S. loan, 1842.	6	60,893 62	-	3,653 61	-	68,236 73	-	do	do	do	Treaty of Sept., 1830.
Do do -	U. S. loan, 1843.	5	1,545 44	62,439 06	77 27	3,730 88	1,530 00	69,766 73	do	do	do	do
				2,181,821 32		114,118 34		2,232,832 45				

Office Indian Affairs, *September* 30, 1846.

F.

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sums of money provided by treaty in stocks.

Names of tribes.	Amount provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per cent.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares - - -	$46,080	5	$2,304	Treaty September 29, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas - -	200,000	6	12,000	Resol'n Senate May 27, 1836.
Sioux of Mississippi - -	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty September 29, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri -	175,400	5	8,770	Treaty October 21, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi -	1,000,000	5	50,000	Treaties October 21, 1837, and October 11, 1842.
Winnebagoes - - -	1,100,000	5	55,000	Treaty November 1, 1837.
Iowas - - - - -	157,500	5	7,875	Resol'n Senate Jan. 19, 1838.
Osages - - - - -	69,120	5	3,456	Resol'n Senate Jan. 19, 1838.
Creeks - - - - -	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty November 23, 1838.
Senecas of New York - -	75,000	5	3,750	Treaty May 20, 1842.
Choctaws - - - - -	43,600	5	2,180	Treaty September 27, 1830.
	3,516,700		177,835	

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, June 30, 1846.

No. 1.

Iowa Superintendency of Indian Affairs,
Executive Office, Burlington, October 2, 1846.

Sir: The annual report called for by the rules and regulations, showing the condition of the Indian tribes within this superintendency, would have been submitted at an earlier day but for the fact that the report, &c., from the St. Peter's agency was not received until within the present week, thereby depriving me of the data and information necessary to its enlightened preparation. It is now most respectfully submitted, with such suggestions as commend themselves to my mind as proper and called for.

Since the removal of the Sacs and Foxes to their new home south and west of the Missouri river, but two tribes or nations of Indians have been embraced within the Iowa superintendency, viz: the Winnebagoes and the Sioux. The Winnebagoes, according to the accompanying report of the sub-agent, number between twenty-four and twenty-five hundred; they are located upon a strip of country forty miles in width, extending from the Mississippi to the Des Moines, a direct line commencing at the mouth of the Upper Iowa, on the first mentioned river, and terminating at the second fork of the Des Moines, passing through its centre.

This country was ceded to the United States by the Sacs and Foxes,

and Sioux, in the treaty of the 15th July, 1830; and, from the fact that it interposed a barrier between these warlike and hostile tribes, has since been called the "Neutral Ground." The Indian right of occupancy extends only as far from the Mississippi river as the east fork of the Red Cedar, but they are secured in the right to hunt as far west as the Des Moines, which makes the entire country theirs for all useful purposes. Although beautiful to behold, and unsurpassed in the advantages which it presents for agricultural pursuits, its comparative destitution of game, joined with other deficiencies of an important character, render it less suitable to the wants of an Indian population than many other regions. In this respect it is acknowledged to be far inferior to the former home of the Winnebagoes in Wisconsin, to which fact, doubtless, is to be attributed the disposition they have constantly manifested to return to the east bank of the Mississippi. Still, although not esteeming their home very highly, the repeated failures which have attended the efforts of the government to extinguish their possessory right show a singular unwillingness on the part of the Indians to dispose of it. This feeling, I have reason to believe, is in consequence of a belief which has obtained general prevalence among the tribe, that they are to be secured in no final resting place—that, if they accept the overtures of the government, in a very few years they will be required to remove from any new home which may be assigned them; again, in the natural course of events and the fulfilments of destiny, to be driven to some point still more remote from the graves of their ancestors, and, perhaps, to a country less adapted to their peculiar wants, and a climate less congenial to their tastes and habits.

They cite, with much apparent plausibility, the history of their past transactions with the government, as illustrative of the fate that awaits them if they again consent to remove; and refer feelingly and eloquently to the superiority of the country formerly owned by them on the Fox and Rock and Wisconsin rivers, over that which they at present inhabit.

Notwithstanding all this, I still believe it possible to effect a purchase of the Neutral Ground, provided a satisfactory home can be offered to the Indians; and being thoroughly convinced that such a consummation would be beneficial in the highest degree to both parties, I cling to the hope that a final arrangement to that effect will be entered into with the delegation of chiefs now at Washington. A great and increasing objection with the Winnebagoes to their present residence is its proximity to the white settlements; they are not slow to perceive the hurtful and pernicious influences resulting from the intercourse which necessarily attends this proximity, and would gladly be relieved from them. While they remain where they are, they cannot hope to escape this prolific source of evil and collision, which, instead of abating, must continue to increase. They have no choice, therefore, left, but to continue in their present country, and submit to the contaminating influences of civilized men, goaded on by cupidity and avarice, or to betake themselves to a new home, where, for a time at least, and to a limited extent, they will be free from encroachments and annoyance. Although, as a tribe, much given to habits of drunkenness, they evince upon all occasions such a correct appreciation of the evils brought upon them by the facilities at present afforded of obtaining liquor, that, to free themselves from the temptation, I entertain but little doubt they will give their consent to remove in the event of a suitable location being offered them. Whiskey, during a portion of last summer, has been sold to them with great impu-

nity: for several weeks the usual restraint imposed by the presence of dragoons at Fort Atkinson was withdrawn, which afforded an opportunity for a golden harvest to dealers in this illicit commerce; but recently a volunteer mounted force has been stationed there, specially charged with the suppression of the infamous traffic, from which some good may be expected.

The progress of the Winnebagoes in agricultural pursuits has, it will be seen from the report of their sub-agent, been quite flattering within the past year; and if their advance in learning and education has not come up to what might be hoped for, there is evidence of capacity among their youth greatly exceeding that which many have been disposed to award to savage minds. From a people depending exclusively on the chase for subsistence, and entertaining what seemed to be an insuperable aversion to the arts of husbandry, they have not only got to be the patrons of agriculture, but a number of them have absolutely become practicable cultivators of the soil. During a visit which, in the discharge of my duty, I was called on to pay to the agency in the month of August last, I had an opportunity of witnessing the farming operations carried on by and for the benefit of the Winnebagoes, and was highly gratified at the evidence thus afforded me of their growing disposition to betake themselves to the pursuits, and to live after the manner, of the white man. The awkwardness which attended their first attempts in the use of farming utensils, if it has not wholly disappeared, is certainly much less striking, while a tolerably good knowledge of the use of various implements of handicraft has been imparted to a considerable number of the tribe. The exercises which upon this occasion I witnessed in the school were of the most interesting character, fully confirming the impression previously entertained by me as to the utility and usefulness of that institution. It is highly creditable to the government, that, in the guardianship which it exercises over these people, it affords them the means of education and intellectual culture. Without these, civilization would be a mockery, if not an absolute curse.

The chief, and, indeed, I might say the only source of trouble with the Winnebagoes for the last several years, has been the difficulty of restraining them within their own proper limits, as designated in the treaty under which they hold the lands which they at present occupy. Entertaining a strong partiality for their former home in Wisconsin, and with nothing but the Mississippi river to separate them from it, they have persevered in the practice of visiting it in considerable numbers to the great annoyance of the white settlers, and despite the efforts, coercive as well as persuasive, which have been made to prevent them from so doing. During one of these visits the past winter a collision took place betwen the intruders and citizens, some distance up the Wisconsin, which resulted in the death of two of the Indians, and the forcible expulsion of the others from the eastern side of the river. The occurrence gave rise to some excitement, and fears were entertained of further difficulty; but the Indians, admonished of their danger, quietly returned to their assigned country, and have since abstained from further acts of trespass. A judicious arrangement made by the agent, by which those most in the habit of leaving their lands have been located on the Red Cedar, thus removing them as far as possible from the Mississippi, will, I think, prevent a recurrence of similar troubles in future.

The annuities paid the Winnebagoes, in proportion to population, exceed those of any other tribe of which I have any knowledge. In money

forty-eight thousand dollars is annually distributed among them, while nearly an equal sum is invested for their benefit in the purchase of provisions, clothing, guns, ammunition, &c., and for farming and education purposes. With such means, it might reasonably be concluded that they are a contented and happy people, in the enjoyment of the comforts o. life; but the reverse of the case is the fact. The money annuity is scarcely paid to them before it finds its way into the hands of the traders; and the goods and provisions, or at least a considerable portion of them, are as speedily turned over to the whiskey-sellers, in exchange for the poisonous article in which they deal. In this way the Indians are enabled to gratify the cravings of their appetites for intoxicating liquors, thereby appropriating the supplies furnished them by the government to the purposes of self-destruction. It is no uncommon occurrence for an Indian to leave one of these dens of infamy stripped of his horse, gun, blanket, and indeed every thing belonging to him of the slightest value. The consequence is, that before the next payment he finds himself reduced to extreme want, and has no choice left but to apply to the traders to be relieved from destitution and suffering brought upon him by his own imprudence. I regret to say that it is not in my power to suggest any course by which the Indians can be protected against their depraved appetites, other than that proposed in the preceding part of the report. All attempts to enforce the laws against the unprincipled men who furnish them with liquor have thus far proved abortive, and I have no reason to believe that the offenders will in future be less vigilant in evading the proof of their guilt.

Sickness has been more prevalent on and around the neutral ground the past season than heretofore. The Indians, it is proper to say, have not been the exclusive victims of affliction, although, from their habits and modes of life, more than a proportionate share of suffering has fallen to their lot. The medical aid secured to them under treaty stipulation was promptly and beneficially rendered; but owing to the impossibility of inducing them to follow the prescriptions of their physicians, a much larger number of deaths have occurred, and annually occur, than otherwise would be the case. Billious fevers, and fevers and chills, are the diseases from which they have most suffered.

The country owned and occupied by the Sioux or Dacotah nation of Indians is of vast extent. It stretches from the Mississippi to the Missouri, and from the northern line of the Neutral Ground to the head waters of the first mentioned river. As might be expected of a region with such extended bounds, and running into so high a northern latitude, there are portions of it which may be set down as entirely valueless, either as regards capacity for the support of an Indian population, or adaptation to farming or other purposes by the whites; stretches of marsh and prairies destitute of game, and so inhospitable as to refuse more than a stinted yield of the commonest products of the earth. Of many other sections, however, a far different picture is to be given. The lower division is described by reliable explorers as possessing great advantages, mineral as well as agricultural; and there can be little doubt, should the Indian title to the lands fronting on the Mississippi be extinguished, that the country would speedily fill up with a hardy northern population.

The Sioux, although of one family, are divided into several tribes, and reside at a great distance from each other. The aggregate strength of those embraced within my superintendency is reported at something over nine

thousand, but this enumeration is not to be strictly relied on. But a single tribe, viz: the Mendawakantons, numbering over two thousand, and occupying the country in the immediate vicinity of Fort Snelling, receive annuities from the government. It is the boast of these people that they have ever been friendly to the whites, and it is certain that they have given but little trouble by outbreak or failure to perform their engagements with the government. Nomadic in their habits, and subsisting chiefly by the chase, it is not surprising that but limited success has attended the efforts made to direct their attention to planting and agriculture. Much, however, I think, may be expected from perseverance. Game, from its increasing scarcity, must soon become a precarious dependance, and then the cultivation of the soil must be resorted to as a measure of necessity, and in self-defence. A strong desire exists among the Sioux to increase their annuities; and, should the policy of the government render the purchase of a portion of their lands desirable, either as a home for other Indian tribes, or for settlement by the whites, the information I am in possession of leaves no doubt upon my mind that it might be easily effected.

I beg leave to call the attention of the Department to a subject requiring the interposition of the government, and to which reference was made in the report submitted a year since by my predecessor in office. From an examination of the report of the agent at St. Peter's, it will be seen that the half-breeds and others, British subjects, residing on the Red river of the North, persevere in their intrusions into the Sioux country, notwithstanding Major Sumner, at the head of the military force, visited them in the summer of 1845 for the express purpose of cautioning them against a repetition of their practices. These men pursue the buffalo for their hides, penetrate annually into the Sioux country in considerable numbers, and dispose of the avails of their hunts to the trading posts belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company.

They all reside on British soil, and should not be permitted to rob tribes, with which our government has engagements, of their means of subsistence, either for their own enrichment or that of the mammoth company whose agents they are understood to be. Until recently no notice has been taken of their intrusions upon our soil, and aggressions upon the rights of our Indians, which are represented as having been practised for several years; but now that the facts have come to light, and have been communicated to the Department, it is hoped efficient measures will be adopted towards effecting the proper corrective. The number of animals slaughtered in the Sioux country the past spring is said to be incredibly great, even exceeding the estimates of former years. The Sioux justly complain of the injury which is thus inflicted upon them, the effect being to deprive them of their chief dependance for subsistence, or at least to render it uncertain and precarious.

Much suffering is reported to have taken place the past winter among the more northern tribes, owing to the scarcity of buffalo, and destitution on the part of the Indians of guns, powder, &c., with which to take small game; and apprehensions are entertained that a similar state of things may be looked for the ensuing winter. The same destitution still exists, and their corn crop is reported to be a total failure. Governmental aid to these tribes, however limited, would bring healing on its wings. They are truly objects of pity, and should not be permitted to starve or perish.

Indulgence in the use of intoxicating liquors seems to be the besetting

vice of the Indians; and the Sioux, although not so enslaved by their appetites as the Winnebagoes, cannot be said to constitute an exception to the remark. They are blessed in the fact that their facilities for obtaining whiskey are but limited, owing to their remoteness from the white settlements, else drunkenness would probably be as prevalent among them as among their more southern neighbors. As it is, I am sorry I do not feel authorized to say that temperance is on the advance among them.

The reports of General J. E. Fletcher and Major Bruce, of the Winnebago and St. Peter's agencies, are herewith transmitted, with the usual accompanying papers, to which, for information not contained in this communication, you are respectfully referred.

The usual estimate of funds required by treaty stipulations for this superintendency the ensuing year, accompanies this report.

Very respectfully, I remain your obedient servant,

JAMES CLARKE.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Cimmissioner of Indian Affairs, War Department.

No. 2.

ST. PETER'S AGENCY,
Iowa Territory, September 1, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of this agency:

The Mendawakanton Sioux number this year, agreeably to the lists furnished by the chiefs and headmen, two thousand one hundred and forty-one; they inhabit some seven or eight villages on the Mississippi and St. Peter's rivers. Under the treaty of 1837, they annually receive from the United States, with ten thousand dollars in specie, which is paid to heads of families, ten thousand dollars' worth of goods, and five thousand five hundred dollars' worth of provisions, which is paid to the chiefs of the villages, and by them distributed to the several families. Under the same treaty, provision is made for farmers and blacksmiths. The farmers report a larger amount of corn the present year than usual, which, added to their annuity and the product of their hunts, would enable them, with little economy, to live in comfort and abundance.

But I am sorry to be obliged to report that their habits of indolence, and want of knowledge of the value of time and property, almost forbid any hope of their improvement, either in morals or intellect. Their living, too, in the immediate neighborhood of whiskey dealers, renders their case hopeless. Habits of intemperance are on the increase, and many deaths are the consequence.

The sickness which prevails the present season is without a parallel in this section of the country.

The smiths employed under the treaty of 1837, with the Mendawakantons, are of the first class of mechanics; and these have been diligently employed in making and repairing every description of useful work for the Indians and farmers, for the use of Indian farms.

The farmers, in anticipation of a large increase of stock for which I have contracted, for the use of the Sioux, have secured a large amount of hay.

Of the bands of Sioux who reside at a greater distance from the agency,

and who mostly depend upon the chase for a subsistence, it is impossible to ascertain the number, as they are very averse to let it be known; but from the best information on the subject, made by persons who have visited them frequently, the number and the location contained in the accompanying statistical table may be relied on as correct as can be arrived at. The small quantity of corn planted by the Sioux of the Upper St. Peter's has almost entirely failed, owing to the drought that prevailed in that region the past summer, and the traders report the buffalo as having almost entirely disappeared from that part of the country; consequently, a great amount of suffering may be anticipated by the Indians the next winter and spring.

It again becomes my duty to call your attention, and the attention of government, to the inroads of the half-breeds and freemen of Red river into the Sioux country.

It is reported to this office that a larger number of them than usual went last spring into the Sioux country in pursuit of the buffalo. It is almost incredible, the quantity of those animals that are annually destroyed by them. The products of these hunts are usually taken to supply the Hudson's Bay Company trading posts.

The returns from the different traders are represented as greater in quantity the last season than at any time for some years, but the very low price paid for furs will prove nearly ruinous to those engaged in tha business.

I have been credibly informed, by persons direct from the Red river settlement, that the Hudson's Bay Company have established one or more trading houses near the line, and furnish large quantities of rum or other intoxicating drink to the Indians, who visit them from this side for the purpose of trade. Would not a representation of these facts, made by our government to the British minister, and by him to his government, have a tendency to stop these practices?

The Sioux have so far remained at peace with their red neighbors, although some of them express a wish to have the treaty with the Chippewas abrogated, while others express a desire to have it observed.

In the spring of the year 1845, one of Goodroad's band was killed by two Chippewas of the band of Pillagers, who reside on *Otter Tail lake.* The relations of the young man who was killed still retain a wish to avenge the blow. There was in the neighborhood of this place a chief of a different band of Chippewas, with a party of his people, who had been on a visit to the fort. To secure this party from an attack from the Sioux, the commanding officer, Captain Backus, immediately sent for and had them brought to the fort; and to reconcile the Sioux, two of their number were given up by the chiefs as hostages, to be kept until the offenders were given up by their people, or taken by the proper authorities, to be dealt with according to law. These facts were reported by the commanding officer to the officer commanding the Department, who ordered that the hostages should be kept until the pleasure of the authorities at Washington should be made known: since which time, nothing has been done. The force at this point has been too small to send a sufficient force to take the offenders, even should an order to that effect be issued.

Some time last month one young man, belonging to Goodroad's band, who was out hunting in the neighborhood of the headwaters of the Des Moines, was killed by some Indian party, supposed to be Pottawato-

mies from the Missouri, as their trail led in that direction. The Sioux, from what I can learn, are determined to strike a blow in return some time this fall, if they can find any of the Pottawatomies, or Sacs and Foxes, in that section of country.

The chief of the Little Crow's band, who reside below this place about nine miles, in the immediate neighborhood of the whiskey dealers, has requested to have a school established at his village. He says that they are determined to reform, and for the future try to do better. I wrote to Doctor Williamson soon after the request of the chief was made, desiring him to take charge of the school, but have not yet heard from him. He has had charge of the mission school at Lac-qui-parle for some years; is well qualified, and, in addition, is an excellent physician. He would be of great advantage to this band, and to the Indians generally in this vicinity.

I transmit, herewith, the school report and accompanying letter of the Rev. Doctor Thomas S. Williamson, of the Lac-qui-parle mission school, marked A.

Also the report and letter of Stephen R. Riggs, of Traverse des Sioux mission school, marked B.

And also the report of the condition of the school taught by the Rev. Samuel Pond, with his letter on the subject, marked C.

The above mission schools are entirely supported by the A. B. C. F. M., and donations from charitable persons in favor of foreign missions.

I also send you the report of Dr. George F. Turner, surgeon U. S. army, and physician for the Sioux, in reference to the prevailing causes of disease amongst the Dakotas of this agency, marked D.

In consequence of severe indisposition, I have been compelled to submit this short and perhaps unsatisfactory report. I have had but short intervals free from pain for the last three weeks, and have been compelled frequently to stop in consequence of a return.

With greatest respect, your excellency's obedient and humble servant,

AMOS J. BRUCE,
Indian Agent.

His Excellency JAMES CLARKE,
Supt. Indian Affairs, Burlington, Iowa Territory.

No. 3.

TURKEY RIVER SUB-AGENCY,
August 15, 1846.

SIR: The Winnebago Indians number at the present time about 2,400. They are located in twenty-two detached parties or bands, in that part of the Neutral Ground lying between the east fork of the Red Cedar and a line twenty miles west of the Mississippi. A map showing the location of the several bands and the sites of the public buildings is herewith transmitted. Each band has a chief or headman. There are seventy-five half-breeds living at the present time among the Indians. A majority of these half-breeds live in the neighborhood of the sub-agency. Of the Winnebagoes, two bands, consisting of about 300 in number, follow the chase for a subsistence; the balance are, more or less, engaged in agricultural pursuits.

They raise corn, oats, potatoes, beans, turnips, squashes, and other vegetables; they all, however, depend, in part, on hunting and fishing for a living. The half-breeds depend partly on themselves, and in part on the Indians, for a support.

Believing it to be the first and most effectual step towards the civilization of Indians to engage them in agricultural pursuits, I have the past year directed my efforts particularly to this object. The result has at least equalled my expectations. Some six of the chiefs, and several of the headmen of the tribe, have gone into the field and held the plough in a farmer-like manner from day to day. This is considered encouraging, as it is by the Indians held to be degrading for a man to work. Some of the Indians have this year cultivated their corn with the plough. The result has been such as will probably induce the general adoption of this mode of cultivation. Most of the bands have applied to be furnished with harness, wagons, and ploughs, which articles have been furnished them as far as practicable. Two wagons, ten sets of harness, ten sets of gears for ploughing, and ten ploughs, have been loaned to them. The Indians have, in all cases, furnished their own horses to use in the plough and wagon. They have this year cultivated 365 acres of land: of this, they have ploughed eighty acres themselves; 255 acres have been ploughed for them; and it is estimated that they have cultivated 30 acres without ploughing. Three additional fields have been ploughed and fenced this season for the bands who moved from the Mississippi and Root rivers, and are now located on the Iowa.

The Indians have excellent crops this year, which would not suffer by a comparison with the crops raised in the adjoining counties. I intend to organize an agricultural society, awarding suitable premiums for the best crops, with a view to excite emulation and promote industry. The crop raised by the Indians themselves, with the surplus of the agency farm, added to their annuity provisions, will afford them a comfortable support the present year.

The disposition of these Indians gradually to adopt the habits of civilized life, is manifest by their use of the plough, the harrow, and the scythe; by their applications to have dwelling-houses, warehouses, and root houses built for them; by their partially adopting the dress of the white man, and by imitating his mode of burial. Some time in July last a young Indian and squaw applied to have a license obtained for their marriage according to the laws of the Territory; the license was obtained, and they were married by the Rev. David Lowry. The parties were full-blooded Winnebagoes, and were members of the school.

It would be a delightful task to lead this people, step by step, in the path of civilization and improvement, if that path were not blockaded at every step by a whiskey keg, and every effort to promote their welfare and happiness thwarted and counteracted by a set of heartless whiskey dealers established along the line of the Indian country, a few feet beyond the jurisdiction of the military officer and the sub-agent, for the purpose of plundering these Indians of their money and their goods; to rob them of their food, their clothing, their virtue, and their health: but it is idle to complain; the laws of the Territory are inoperative and impotent to remedy this evil; and the hope, once entertained, that the state of public morals among the hardy settlers of our frontier would become sufficiently eleva-

ted and correct to forbid the longer existence of these nuisances, has ceased to exist.

The farms have this season undergone considerable repairs. It was found necessary to repair all the fence. Some 8,885 rails and stakes have been made and used on the farm at the agency. To this farm an addition of 100 acres has been made this season; this was done with very little additional fence, forty acres of the ground added having been formerly cultivated. There has been an average force of about ten hands constantly at work on the farms since the middle of last March. The number of acres cultivated by the hands employed, exclusive of the land ploughed for the Indians as stated above, is 237—48 acres in wheat, 19 acres in oats, 2½ acres in peas, 80 acres in corn, 10 acres in potatoes, 77½ acres in beans and turnips. The land cultivated in beans and turnips was intended for corn, but the spring was late and the ground wet, and could not be ploughed in season. Our wheat and oats were good, and were harvested in good condition; corn and potatoes promise a fine crop.

We have a carpenter's shop attached to the farm, in which one man is employed most of the time in making coffins for the Indians, and in making and repairing tools for the farms and for the Indians.

The blacksmiths and assistants have been employed in making hoes, axes, hatchets, knives, traps, and fishing spears, and in repairing these and numerous other articles for the Indians; also, in making and repairing farming implements, and shoeing horses and oxen, for the use of the farm and for the Indians.

The Winnebago school is in successful operation under the superintendence of the Rev. David Lowry. I have frequently visited the school and inspected the boarding and the clothing departments. I find that the children in attendance are well supplied with wholesome food, and are suitably clothed. Neatness, order, and cheerfulness are apparent throughout the establishment. Mr. Lowry's management of the school is, I think, judicious—patience and kindness are substituted for passion and severity. The general system of education adopted in the school is similar to the system ordinarily adopted in primary schools. The capacity of the scholars to learn is similar to that evinced by white children of the same age. The progress of the scholars attending the school is not equal to the progress usually made by white children; which difference on the part of the Indian is accounted for by his irregularity of attendance, and the influences to which he is subject when absent from school.

Believing that a practical knowledge of agriculture and the formation of industrious habits is to the Indian youth of at least equal importance to the acquirement of literary knowledge, I recommended to the principal of the school that the boys attending the school, of suitable age, should be employed in manual labor a part of every day in fair weather. The plan met his approbation, and was acted upon for a time; but the resignation of the male assistant teacher interrupted the regular employment of the boys in the field. The vacancy alluded to being now filled, it is understood that manual labor, both in the field and in the shop, will be a part of the system of instruction in the school.

There are at present three female and two male teachers employed in the school. For a more particular and detailed account, I will respectfully refer to the report of the principal of the school herewith transmitted.

If it was considered probable that the Winnebagoes would long occupy

their present home, I should deem it my duty respectfully to suggest to the Department the expediency of establishing branches of this school, or the establishment of additional schools at a point on the Iowa river, and also on the Red Cedar; and I will here remark, that three bands of the Winnebagoes have concentrated on the east fork of the Red Cedar, and built the best village in the nation, and have upwards of 100 children of a suitable age to attend school.

Considerable sickness prevails at the present time among the Indians under my charge. Their physician is constantly employed in the duties of his profession.

The Winnebagoes have been on terms of friendly intercourse with the neighboring tribes of Indians during the past year.

The collision which occurred last winter between a party of Winnebagoes and the citizens of Grant county, Wisconsin Territory, will, it is believed, operate to deter the Indians from roaming in that vicinity. I trust that hereafter there will exist no ground of complaint against the Winnebagoes for trespassing on the citizens of Wisconsin.

It is made the duty of agents and sub-agents "to superintend and manage the intercourse of their respective tribes with other tribes, and with the citizens of the United States." The sub-agent receives instructions from the Department to keep the Indians under his charge from wandering about the country and committing depredations upon the citizens: it is presumed that a majority of the citizens wish these instructions carried into effect, while a few invite and encourage the Indians to visit them for the purposes of trade. Urged by their inclinations, the Indians comply with these invitations; depredations and outrages sometimes follow, and the sub-agent is blamed by the community for suffering a state of things to exist which it was not in his power to prevent. I deem it but justice here to say, that I am convinced I should not have been able to carry into effect the instructions of the Department to collect and keep the Winnebagoes within their proper limits, but for the aid rendered me by one of the licensed traders in this sub-agency, by his refusing to trade with the Indians at a trading-house on the east side of the Mississippi, where they had formerly resorted in great numbers, and by using his influence to persuade them to keep within their own country. Had all the traders taken the same stand and used their influence in the same way, I should have had far less trouble in the discharge of my duty.

I am convinced that the interest of the Winnebagoes would be consulted by certain changes in the laws governing trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes; but it is presumed that these laws are considered well adapted to subserve the interests of the Indians generally. Suggestions upon this subject might, therefore, be considered uncalled for here, as I am expected to confine myself to such matters as are made by the regulations the egitimate subjects of a sub-agent's annual report.

Letters designed for this place should be directed to Turkey river sub-agency, via Prairie du Chien.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. E. FLETCHER, *Sub-agent.*

His Excellency James Clarke,
Superintendent Indian Affairs,
Burlington, Iowa Territory.

No. 4.

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE TERRITORY OF WISCONSIN,
Madison, October 8, 1846.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I submit my annual report of the state and condition of the Indians, accompanied with an estimate of the appropriations necessary to enable the department to comply with the stipulations of subsisting treaties with the tribes at present residing in this superintendency, and for the payment of the contingent expenses of the different sub-agencies in this Territory.

The annual reports of the sub-Indian agents for the Green Bay and La-Pointe sub-agencies are herewith enclosed, with their accompanying documents; they are full and satisfactory, and present to your department the true state and condition of the Indians committed to their charge by the government.

The condition of the Menomonie and other Indians of the Green Bay sub-agency has not been materially changed, with the exception of the Stockbridge Indians. The act of the last Congress, having repealed the act of 1843, is calculated to produce again a change in the condition of these Indians, and it will take some time to determine what effect the act referred to will have on them as a people: they are now agriculturists, have long since abandoned the chase, and are to a certain extent a civilized people.

In my last annual report I recommended the extinguishment of the Indian title to the whole of the Menomonie country as early as practicable. I deem that measure of the first importance to the future growth and prosperity of the northern portion of this Territory.

From the proximity of the settlements to the Indian country, it is desirable, if the whole of the Menomonie country is not purchased, that that part of their country bordering on the Wolf and Wisconsin rivers should be owned by the United States; it will be the means of preventing intrusions on the lands of the Indians, which is the subject of much complaint at present. Should the resolution of the Senate, however, remain in force, preventing allowances to the traders and half-breeds, it will be difficult to effect a treaty with the Menomonies; these traders, and relations of mixed blood, have a controlling influence over them as a people.

It appears from the report of Mr. Ellis, the sub-agent, that a portion of the Menomonies are becoming an agricultural people; and several hundreds of them have attached themselves to the Catholic church, and have lately erected for themselves log houses, and many of the Menomonie families are desirous to send their children to school. The reports of their teachers will give your department detailed information on that subject. I respectfully recommend that the small amounts required by the sub-agent for the repairing of school-houses, and the incidental expenses necessary to make them comfortable, will be allowed by your department.

The sub-agent for the Chippewa Indians, in his report, states that no material change has taken place in the state and condition of the Indians of his sub-agency.

The Chippewas of lake Superior show a disposition to improve, and are slowly advancing towards civilization, and are extending the agricultural operations every year.

The Chippewas on the lower Mississippi the sub-agent represents as retrograding every year, by the pernicious influence brought to bear on them in the sale of whiskey, and that no hope exists of bettering their condition while they occupy their present location, and suggests the propriety of purchasing their country east of the Mississippi, and their removal to Leach lake or Red lake.

On this subject, I am not prepared to express my views to your department: it is the first suggestion made by any of the agents of the government to extinguish the Indian title to the whole of the Chippewa country east of the Mississippi. It is of the first importance to know that their condition as a people would be improved by their removal.

The sub-agent states that the relations of the Chippewas and Sioux are of an amicable nature; though the murder of one of the latter remains unatoned for, yet no attempt to revenge the murder of the Sioux had taken place; they have waited patiently for a settlement of the matter, according to the terms of the treaty of peace entered into between these tribes; that he had received my letter of instructions dated on the 22d of July last, and, as directed, he had addressed Colonel Bruce, the Sioux agent, on the subject, and that he will, with Colonel Bruce, take the necessary measures to procure the arrest and delivery of the murderers.

I respectfully submit to your Department an extract from my last annual report:

"The humane policy of the government has had the most beneficial effect in restoring the Sioux and Chippewa Indians, lately, from their hostilities towards each other. The upper bands of the Chippewa Indians on the Mississippi, I am informed, are in the habit of visiting the British settlements on the north Red river annually. I think it would be good policy to make a few presents to the chiefs and warriors of those bands of the Chippewa Indians that do not receive a part of the annuities at La-pointe. The British government has already exercised a great influence over the Indian tribes of the northwest; and it has, in a great degree, been owing to their making to the Indians in our territory, annually, presents in goods of a superior quality, that they have acquired that influence. It is certainly the policy of our government to counteract British influence within the territorial limits of the United States.

"A few presents, in medals, swords, laced coats, &c., for the chiefs and warriors of the upper bands of the Chippewas, would have a good effect in conciliating their good will, and making them friendly to the United States, and putting it out of the power of the British agents to control them to the injury of the United States."

The Winnebago Indians have been less trouble this season to the frontier settlers than heretofore. The Winnebago chief, called the "Dandy," still remains on the waters of the Wisconsin river, with a small band of Winnebagoes. This chief was made a prisoner by the dragoons last winter on the Wisconsin river, and made his escape after he was taken to Prairie du Chien. The killing of the two Winnebagoes at Musconda last winter, (the details of which I submitted fully to your Department in the months of February and March last,) has had a good effect in restraining the Winnebagoes and keeping them more within the limits of their own country, and has prevented their committing their usual depredations on the frontier settlements in Wisconsin. The sub agent of the Winneba-

goes, General Fletcher, has done every thing in his power, I have no doubt, to keep the Winnebagoes within their proper limits.

HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. WILLIAM MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Madison, September 26, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose herewith, for your information, a letter from A. G. Ellis, esq., sub-Indian agent for the Menomonie Indians, in answer to my letter to him of the 20th ultimo, requesting him to obtain information from the chiefs of the Menomonie Indians on the subject of the sale of their country to the United States. Not having received an answer to my letter from the sub-agent as early as expected, I addressed him again on the subject referred to him, and suggested to him the propriety of convening the chiefs of the Menomonies and the principal men at the annuity payment, and obtain from them (if in his power to do so) answers to my inquiries, contained in my letter above referred to, and advise me of the result without delay.

By a reference to the treaty concluded with the Menomonie Indians on the 3d of September, 1836, you will perceive by a provision in the 2d article of that treaty that the sum of $97,710 50 was paid to their traders, and $80,000 as an allowance to their relatives of mixed blood. At the treaty referred to I acted as the commissioner on the part of the United States, and I am satisfied that no treaty could have been made with the Menomonies without making some provision for their traders and relatives of mixed blood. The relatives of the Menomonies of mixed blood are among the most respectable of the old settlers at Green Bay and vicinity, and I have no hesitation in expressing my opinion that no treaty can be made with the Menomonies in this Territory without making provision for their traders and half-breed relations, and that the treaty should be made at Washington, where the chiefs of the Menomonies could act independent of the influences that would be brought to bear on them here. The enclosed letter of the sub-agent no doubt presents the facts truly as far as he has presented his views; but does not answer your inquiries. As early as I can hear from him I will again address the department.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Green Bay, September 10, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 20th ultimo, informing me of the wish of the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to obtain, if possible, the

views of the Menomonie Indians in relation to a cession of their country to the government, and the selection of their future home; and, if willing to sell, what consideration money would probably be required. I do not expect to be able to answer these several inquiries very fully, but respectfully submit the following:

Your excellency is aware that the Menomonies are in a great degree under the influence of their traders; and that they will probably be so, especially in a matter of this importance. The appropriation lately made by Congress having been noticed through the newspapers, the public here are looking for a treaty, and I find the matter has been spoken of by the traders to the Indians. Some half dozen of them (the traders) profess to have large claims, and are looking to a treaty for payment. It is agreed among them that they must secure themselves *now*, (should a treaty take place,) as it is the last chance—the Menomonies not having sufficient country to produce a second treaty. It will, therefore, be very difficult, if not impossible, to treat with these Indians without meeting this influence, and providing for satisfaction of traders' claims; but this cannot, I suppose, be done on account of "the resolution of the Senate," alluded to in your communication.

As to the disposition of the Indians themselves, I can only presume that they would readily sell for a fair price, and could without difficulty be located southwest of the Missouri, or elsewhere, as might be desired by the government.

I cannot conjecture what sum would satisfy them. Without claiming to be very accurate, (for there is no sufficient data,) I will suppose that the Menomonies have still unceded a country about 160 miles long and some 80 broad—equal, probably, to nearly ten millions of acres; which, at six cents the acre, would produce the sum of $600,000. An annuity of $30,000, for 15 years, would absorb $450,000; $50,000 of the balance might be applied to educational purposes, (say $2,500 per annum for 20 years,) which would leave $100,000 with which to appease traders and half-breeds. This sum (to be paid, perhaps, among them severally, according to schedule, by instalments, for some ten years, *as a part of* the annuity) is as little as would suffice to still their claims.

It is thought by some that, if not the whole, a cession of at least part of their lands might now be obtained, to wit: the south part, as far north as township 28 of the public surveys, which would take all their country (including most of the Wisconsin pines) immediately necessary for settlement. On this tract it is very difficult to keep our citizens from entering. In fact, they are already encroaching on considerable parts of it.

Now, in all this I am aware, most excellent sir, that there is very little of what is required by the honorable the Commissioner, to wit: "the views of the Indians" themselves. And, in fact, I cannot, until they are assembled, obtain their views, except by indirection, through their traders and half-breeds; and I have not thought it policy as yet to broach the matter openly to the Indians. As to the views of the traders, half-breeds, and some of the *whites* of the neighborhood, I arrive at them every hour without much seeking. They are to the same intent *that the Menomonies must not treat without liberal allowances to their creditors*. This sentiment pervades but a part of the white citizens. Yet, well as your excellency is acquainted with the state of affairs, you would be somewhat surprised to find the extent of it, and the boldness with which it is avowed by men

claiming the first respectability among us. One of our oldest citizens, an attorney, has desired that his opinion to that effect should be stated to your excellency, and that all his influence in support of it will be given to the Indians and French inhabitants.

From the whole phasis, it will be perceived how difficult it will be to obtain a cession of the Menomonie country, while the resolution of the Senate, cutting off allowances to traders and others under Indian treaties, remains in force.

On the whole, were I to venture any counsel, it would be that your excellency should appear, (perhaps rather unexpectedly to the traders and whites,) at the approaching annuity payment, empowered and prepared to submit to the Menomonies a proposition for the purchase of their country, to which they would be compelled to reply before the malign influence could organize itself to defeat the government.

The whole authority of the nation will be assembled there, and the subject not taking them by surprise—for, as I said before, they are aware that the thing is contemplated—the Indians would be prepared to act. Not yet being in possession of the funds, or advised when the money for this annuity payment will be placed at my disposal, I cannot now fix on the day; probably, however, it will be about the 30th September instant.

The course proposed would, in case no treaty should be concluded, enable your excellency to avoid the necessity of expending any very considerable portion of the appropriation, as the Indians will be subsisted in the ordinary way during their annuity payment.

Should it be decided otherwise, and the honorable Commissioner adhere to his plan of having the Indians inquired of, before appointing a commissioner to treat, I can conveniently do it at the annuity payment, and be able, no doubt, after that, to lay before your excellency the views in full of the Indians, and such other facts as may transpire being likely to have a bearing on the subject.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Sub-Indian Agent.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Supt. of Indian Affairs, Madison.

No. 5.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY,
Green Bay, September 24, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The several accompanying papers will serve greatly to abridge this my annual report.

Since my last, but few changes have taken place in the affairs of this sub-agency.

The *Oneidas* of Duck creek continue to advance slowly in civilization. I respectfully refer to the paper marked "Census and Statistics, &c., of the Oneidas."

I beg leave here to correct a statement in my last annual report, in regard to the quantity of land in their reservation, which is a little more than

three townships, (nearly 70,000 acres,) instead of two townships, according to former statement.

A portion of the first Christian party are still desirous to remove to Missouri. I have steadily advised them that so soon as 250 were ready to emigrate, the government would aid them, and not before such number would enrol. A small party (some 50 or more) is, however, endeavoring, on their own resources, to remove this fall.

The balance, including the great body of the tribe, are opposed to removal, and are comparatively contented and happy where they are. Their whole number is about 720.

The *Stockbridges*, east side of Winnebago lake, some 280 in number, are a civilized people, having nearly laid aside their language and adopted the manners and customs of the whites. For a more particular notice of them, I respectfully refer to the paper accompanying, marked "Census, Statistics, &c., of the Stockbridges."

The *Menomonies*, with few exceptions, remain as heretofore: the number about 2,500 souls—most of them resident on their own lands: those still lingering on the ceded lands have engaged to remove (by small parties at a time) within the present and the coming year. They are probably encouraged, to a certain extent, to remain on the ceded lands, by certain persons engaged in the Indian trade. The wholesome regulations under the act for regulating trade and intercourse with them have no force when the Indians are on the United States lands; hence it is very desirable that they should remove to their own country.

They continue to complain of the encroachments of the whites, especially in the neighborhood of the Wisconsin river. While the troops are withdrawn from that region it will be difficult to prevent these encroachments. There should be either a purchase of all the Menomonie country south of and to include township No. 28 of the public surveys, or efficient measures taken to remove the whites, intruders on the Indian lands, immediately; which can only be done by the aid of troops, under the direction of the President of the United States, according to the 10th section of the act to regulate trade and intercourse. I earnestly commend this matter to the consideration of the department.

The Menomonies are a brave and patient people, the firm friends of the government, and rely with abiding confidence on its justice and magnanimity. The greater share of them are hunters, living exclusively by the chase and the fisheries; for the last they resort to Green Bay, and the rivers falling into it, where they take at all seasons of the year, but especially in winter, large quantities (beyond their own consumption) of *trout* and *sturgeon*. When the Menomonies shall leave the shores of Green Bay, the sturgeon fisheries will cease—none but the Indians being able to endure the cold and fatigue of taking them.

Some three hundred of the Menomonies are Christians and *farmers:* the number is increasing, and the tribe will ere long become civilized, and abandon the chase. On a late visit to their village, I counted sixty-two log houses, erected by themselves, most of them comfortably finished and occupied. They made me a set speech, with great earnestness, at their village, about boards *to build with*, desiring the establishment of a saw-mill on their lands for their use. They have cleared up from the heavy timbered lands small fields, which are well fenced, and fine crops of corn and potatoes occupy every foot of ground: they will raise enough at lake

Pah-way-hi-kun this year for their subsistence. The teams, farming utensils, &c., supplied them by the government, are in good order and highly prized: the quantity, annually, should be increased.

This band of the Menomonies have a proper sense of the importance of education, as indispensable to their success in the new mode of life they are essaying: they will send their children assiduously to the schools. Touching this subject, I beg leave to refer to the paper accompanying, marked "School Report."

As a tribe, the great body of the Menomonies are inclined to intemperance; but when on their own lands they seldom get liquor, and there is a grand improvement in this respect perceptible. Especially is this to be said of the farming band—they find occupation for their time, the which keeps them away, in a good degree, from places of drinking, and temptation to intoxication.

The two blacksmiths among them are constantly employed—faithful men, and highly valued; but they are unable to do all the work wanted: the farming Indians especially are not supplied, the blacksmith at that village being constantly employed on guns, traps, &c. If practicable, I should be pleased to have an additional blacksmith for the farming village.

Besides the pure *Menomonies,* there is quite a number of anomalous Indians, hitherto undescribed in this sub-agency. There is always discovered at the annuity payments *several hundred* relations of the tribe, whole bloods and half-breeds, of other tribes. They are a band of the *Ottowas* and *Pottawatomies,* mixed with the Menomonies, who inhabit on the ceded lands southeast of Green Bay, Fox river, and Winnebago lake, thence through to the Milwaukie river and lake Michigan, to the number of perhaps three hundred; also, a band of the *Winnebagoes,* full and half-breeds, with the Menomonies, who wander over the ceded lands south of Fox river, west of the Wisconsin river, and on part of the Menomonie country, to the number of some two hundred and fifty; also, a band of *Chippewas,* whole and half-breeds, that inhabit on the borders of the Menomonie country, on the north, to the number of some four hundred.

These several bands never fail to appear at the Menomonie annuity payment, claiming that having been, equally with the Menomonies, the original owners of the country ceded at the treaty of 3d September, 1836, they are equally entitled to a share in the annuity. In this claim they are sustained by their traders and some few of the Menomonies, and it is matter of no little difficulty to exclude them.

The Menomonie chiefs, themselves, have not always been agreed on the question, and former agents have differed upon it, so that no settled rule has as yet prevailed. Ought not the head of the Department to make some order on the subject?

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS,
Indian Sub-agent.

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Madison, W. T.

No. 6.

LAPOINTE SUB-AGENCY,
August 15, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to report that no material change has occurred in the office of this sub-agency since the date of my last annual report.

The Chippewas of the Lake still show a disposition to improve, and are slowly advancing towards civilization. They are extending their agricultural operations every year, and many of them express a desire to build and live in permanent habitations. The greatest obstacle to their improvement—the idea that labor is degrading—has in a great measure been overcome in these Indians, and the greatest portion of them willingly assist in the cultivation of the portion of land assigned them by the farmer.

I am not one of those who expect a people as ignorant and degraded as these were, and still are, immediately to abandon habits and associations which have been upon them from birth, and become civilized and enlightened. It will require years, even with the most rapid advances for which we can hope, to entirely break up and destroy their affection for a wild and wandering life; but, with a faithful and patient application of the present policy of the government, I am led, from observation of its effects upon them for two years, to look forward to the time when the Chippewas will be a civilized and comparatively enlightened people. That they possess natural intelligence equal to any other, we have evidence in all on whom a fair experiment has been tried.

For any great improvement, as far as education in letters is concerned, we must of course look to the rising generation; of the old we can expect nothing more than to teach them the better to provide for their temporal wants. When this is done, we have attained a great object in the way of example to the young.

It is much to be regretted that these Indians are not occupying a territory where they would be free from the fear of removal, which is a great drawback to their improvement. Had they a country which they could be assured would be their permanent home, the persons employed among them by the government would have more influence in inducing them to labor, &c., and the improvement of the Indian would be much more rapid.

The Indians on the lower Mississippi are retrograding every year, and every year the pernicious influence brought to bear upon them in that region is increasing. The facilities for procuring whiskey are unlimited, and consequently there is no hope of doing any thing to better their condition while they are permitted to occupy their present location. The country (particularly that on the St. Croix) is becoming thickly settled with whites, and, under existing circumstances, it is not to be expected that the two races will live amicably together. Depredations upon the property of the settlers, and difficulties between individuals, whites and Indians, are frequent occurrences. These evils are growing; and it is to be feared that if not checked, they will in time assume a more serious form. The late example of the Winnebagoes should teach us the propriety of guarding in time against a similar state of affairs in this region.

In view of these facts, I would beg leave to suggest that these Indians should be removed at the earliest practicable date. The future good, both of whites and Indians, demands that such a course should be

pursued; and the longer it is delayed, the more difficult will be its execution.

To remove them to the lands still held unceded by them east of the Mississippi would be useless, as, from the facilities for communication, it would be impossible to prevent their return in detached numbers; and, moreover, the Territory of Wisconsin will in a short time be claiming her place as a State in the Union; and to carry out the policy of the government, these lands will also have to be purchased in the course of a few years at farthest. If such should be the desire of the government, I am led to believe that a treaty to extinguish the title of the Chippewas to the whole or any portion of their lands east of the Mississippi could be effected immediately, without difficulty. A considerable portion of these lands, as your excellency is aware, are, by the terms of the La Pointe treaty, made the common property of the Indians parties to that treaty; whose assent, except that of the bands at present occupying the lands, would readily be given, as it will be a matter of indifference to them, when required to remove, whether they are placed east or west of the Mississippi.

These lands embrace an area of about 10,000,000 of acres, extending from the northern boundary of the St. Peter's purchase to the Canada line, including the north shore of lake Superior, which, we are informed on good authority, is equal to any other portion of the lake Superior region, as mineral land. A considerable portion of the remainder is represented as valuable for agricultural purposes.

The streams are numerous, and afford excellent water power; but, with the exception of the Mississippi, are unsuited to navigation with any other craft than the bark canoe. Even the stream mentioned would not admit of navigation with large craft. The navigation is once completely interrupted, above the falls of St. Anthony, by the falls of Pukaguma, one day's march above Sandy lake.

If a purchase should be made, a home could be procured for the Indians west of the Mississippi, simply by permitting the Leech lake and Red lake bands to participate in the annuities, and by making a provision, as in the La Pointe treaty, that the lands of the Mississippi bands should be held in common. There would, however, be the objection to this location, that it would bring the Chippewas and Sioux into still closer contact.

A treaty for this or any other purpose can be effected in the best manner by inviting the chiefs of the different bands to Washington and treat with them there, as they will thus be removed from the influence of interested persons, whom existing regulations will induce to throw every obstacle in the way of the government should negotiations be carried on in the Indian country.

The relations of the Chippewas and Sioux have been of an amicable nature, although the murder of one of the latter remains unatoned for. They have made no attempt to avenge it, but have waited patiently for a settlement of the matter according to the terms of the treaty of peace entered into between the two tribes. I received on the 22d ultimo the communication of your excellency respecting this matter, and have, as directed, written Colonel Bruce, the Sioux agent, on the subject, and will with him take the necessary measures to procure the arrest and delivery of the murderers.

I see no reason why the government should not take the settlement of all matters of this kind, whether occurring between different tribes, or in-

dividuals of the same tribe, entirely out of the hands of the Indians, and at once punish the aggressor. This is a thing expected and desired by the Indians themselves; and a few examples would put a stop to their murders altogether.

I hope your excellency will again press upon the Department the propriety and importance of making annually some presents to the Indians near the British line. Although the feelings of these Indians are at this time friendly towards the government of the United States, they still retain a portion of that affection for the British government which was engendered by the unneighborly present system, from which, in case of a rupture of the amicable relations now subsisting between the two nations, we have, from past experience, much to fear. This influence, by the means recommended in your last report, can be entirely destroyed.

I have made it a point to make to such of these Indians as have visited this place such small presents of provisions, tobacco, &c., as the limited means allowed me for that purpose would permit, and I have always found that the smallest present was received with thankfulness and as an evidence of the care of their Great Father.

There has been but little liquor taken up the Mississippi above Crowwing river, except what has been taken by the Indians themselves. I visited the country on the upper Mississippi in March last; and although complaints had been made that licensed traders were dealing in liquor, I was happy to find that, with one exception, they had conformed themselves to the laws in all respects. A few kegs of whiskey have been brought across the line and disposed of to the Indians at Red lake. This place is about four hundred miles from La Pointe. It is, therefore, impossible for the agent here to do much to check the evil.

There is no inducement to bring liquor to this island except during payment. Heretofore we have been able to prevent its sale to any extent; but should the difficulty of preventing its introduction increase as it has for the last two years, as it doubtless will with the increasing population and facilities for communication, it will be necessary to remove the place of payment into the interior, as it will be almost impossible to make a payment here, not to speak of the probable consequences after a payment, should any quantity of whiskey be sold.

There appears to be a desire widely extended to induce Congress to annul the clause in the treaty of 1842, continuing in force the laws of the United States over the territory ceded by that treaty. This it is to be hoped may not be done so long as the Indians are permitted to occupy the land. Should it be thought proper by Congress, at any time, to throw the country open, the removal of the Indians should be provided for at the same time.

Reports from the several teachers, herewith enclosed, (numbered from 1 to 4 inclusive,) will inform you of the condition, prospects, &c., of the schools within this sub-agency.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, after years of perseverance against adverse circumstances, has been forced to abandon the school and mission station at Pukaguma, despairing of effecting the smallest further good among the Indians at that place. This school was commenced and continued for some time under the most flattering circumstances; but of late years, the Indians, in the face of the most unmeasured exertions, have been going downward, till it was thought best to

abandon the station altogether. This board has, within the last year, established a new station and school at Bad river, from which, connected as it may be with the farming station at that place, we have reason to hope the best results.

The schools of the Methodist Mission Society at Fond-du-Lac and Sandy lake have been regularly kept during the year, with the exception of a short intermission in the latter this spring. The number of pupils taught in this school is not given in the teacher's report. From the character of the Indians, I presume the attendance has been small. As none of these schools are boarding schools, it is impossible for the children to attend regularly, as they must of course accompany their parents in all their wanderings; and hence arises the greatest difficulty against which the teachers have to contend, as it is impossible to make much impression where the pupils are in the school but one or two days during the week. If the $2,000 education fund of the Chippewas could be expended on a small manual labor boarding school, even should the number of pupils taught annually not exceed ten, I am convinced that it would be productive of more final benefit to the nation.

The knowledge of letters is not, in my opinion, by any means the most important part of the education of an Indian. All experience teaches us that if he is not taught also some practical application of the knowledge he has gained, we had much better have left him in his natural state. If he has not this, and is turned back among his people, he has no object to which to apply his new gained knowledge. He feels no sympathy with the minds with which he has to associate, and, as a natural consequence, is dissatisfied with his condition, and sinks again into the vices of his race, to which his education enables him to add those of the white man.

I enclose, also, reports from the blacksmith, farmer, and carpenter, employed under treaty stipulations, to which I refer you for an account of their labors during the year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAS. P. HAYS,
United States Sub-agent.

To his Excell'y HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Madison, Missouri.

No. 7.

MICHIGAN DISTRICT, OFFICE SUPT. IND. AFFAIRS,
Detroit, October 30, 1846.

SIR: In consequence of the delay in receiving the remittances for disbursement within this district, and my necessary absence on official duties, this communication bears a later date, and will be found less full and interesting, than I desire. Since the last annual report, the business of this office has been greatly increased by the discontinuance of the dormitory at Mackinac, the keeper of which has heretofore discharged many of the duties at that station, and by the abolishment of the Saganaw sub-agency, the business and responsibilities of which agency now devolve upon me. There consequently exists a necessity for the employment of a competent clerk, as in the other superintendencies of the United States, which clerk might also perform the duties of messenger; the amount saved in the dis-

continuance of the two offices above alluded to (unless the decision of the Department in regard to them should be reconsidered) would justify an appropriation for this object; the difference in the expenses under that head, during the present year, being less than in former by about eighteen hundred dollars. In collecting and disbursing the funds this year, it will be necessary to perform about 6,000 miles travel, near 5,000 of which have been accomplished since the receipt of the remittances of the 4th of September, during very boisterous weather and on routes of great hazard.

It is desirable that the remittances should be made during the month of July in each year, if possible, in order that the time of the annuity payments may be so fixed as to permit the Indians to assemble and return to their homes in season for the harvest, and prepare for their hunts at the proper time. The delay this year was a serious disappointment to the Indians, and to those at La Pointe in particular, as the supplies furnished by the government (though larger in amount than heretofore) were exhausted, and they were compelled to sustain themselves from their own means during their long and anxious stay at the pay-ground.

The sub-agent at La Pointe informed me that the Indians expressed a desire to cede to the United States that portion of the country not included in the treaty of 1842, and lying on the northern shore of lake Superior, between the St. Louis and Pigeon rivers.

This, with the subject of the reservation at Sault Ste. Marie, was noticed and recommended in my last report, and my views have not changed in regard to the importance of both measures.

From an examination of the report of Jas. Ord, esq., sub-agent at Ste. Marie, with those of the missionaries and teachers within that sub-agency, it will be seen that the condition of the Indians continues to improve; they are becoming more sober, industrious, and religious, and those who are engaged in the work of their civilization take renewed courage from the results of the past year. Within the Mackinac agency a steady advancement is apparent among them. Many have purchased lands, erected comfortable houses, commenced the cultivation of the ground with a view to produce more than sufficient for their own consumption: this, with their fishing and hunting at their proper seasons, has enabled them to improve their condition materially.

Through the liberality, energy, and perseverance of the Rev. F. Pierz, a missionary and teacher among them, a saw-mill has been erected during the season, which furnishes them lumber for buildings and the construction of boats and vessels, which many are doing and abandoning the use of the canoe. The chiefs in council requested the continuance of the dormitory, and desired their wishes made known to the Department: my recommendation in this regard was, some time since, communicated. They also joined in a petition, and made an open request, to have the balance of their debt fund (meaning the $300,000 mentioned in the 5th article of the treaty of May 27, 1836, and the amendment thereto) applied to the payment of their just debts, and the balance appropriated to the purchase of lands and making improvements thereon for their future home. Were the money so applied, I think it would relieve them from debt and provide them with lands and comfortable improvements. A portion repeated the heretofore expressed wish that they might be granted the privileges of citizenship, saying it would stimulate them to greater efforts in qualifying themselves for the enjoyment of those rights. And although I am gratified to say that a very few may be found who would, perhaps, appreciate such

privileges, still, much has yet to be done for them, and great changes accomplished, before such an extension would be founded in a just regard to their own or the public good. The Chippewas of Saganaw continue to advance steadily in improvement; an increased number of acres have been put under cultivation the past season, and they have been blessed with abundant crops. The great change manifested in the character and condition of this band within a few years is truly astonishing. From being an idle and dissipated race, they have comparatively become a sober and industrious people, proud of having land and property of their own, and anxious for the education of their children, and striving for general advancement in their condition.

The exertions of the missionaries, teachers, and officers situated among them, have been unremitting in producing the change. The Ottowas of the Grand river are in a more comfortable state than in previous years; and as the sale of liquor is gradually being abandoned by the whites, it produces a change and happy improvement in the condition of the Indians. When kept sober they are industrious, and provide for their support from their hunts and cornfields. Some have bought lands and made improvements, with the intention and expectation that they will enjoy a permanent home; desiring to remain and die upon the land of their birth, and be buried mid the graves of their fathers.

The few Pottawatomies remaining in the State are generally well situated, receiving the benefits of missionary schools, and making considerable advancement in agricultural pursuits.

That portion of the Swan creek and Black river band remaining in Michigan express dissatisfaction at the condition of the negotiation for the sale of their lands, as stipulated in the treaty of 25th May, 1836: the causes of complaint will be understood by reference to my letter of May 11, 1836.

Should I be permitted to visit Washington during the winter, it would afford an opportunity to examine the situation of this question, with that of others connected with the affairs of this district, and enable me to explain to the Indians, more fully than can be done from any information existing in this office, the views and action of the government upon this and other questions, and the true position of existing relations and previous transactions with them.

I would here state that those persons in the public service connected with the Indian Department in this district, including the missionaries and teachers, have been faithful in the performance of their duties; and that to the reports of some of them, which are herewith, I most respectfully refer you for a more detailed account of the condition and prospect of the Indians within their charge.

No. 1.—Jas. Ord, sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie, report.
No. 2.—Peter P. Lefevre, Bishop, &c., report, schools and missions.
No. 3.—Rev. Abel Bingham, do do
No. 4.—Rev. Wm. A Brockway, do do
No. 5.—Rev. P. Dougherty, do do
No. 6.—Rev. Leonard Slater, do do
No. 7.—Rev. Geo. N. Smith, do do

WM. A. RICHMOND,
Acting Supt. Ind. Affairs.

Hon. William Medill;
Com. Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

No. 8.

SAULT ST. MARIE,
Michigan, October 1, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to report the physical condition of the Indians of this sub-agency to be more promising and prosperous than it has been during previous years.

From their hunts and from fishing they have been able nearly to liquidate their debts to their traders, and many of them have been supplied with provisions and clothing for the winter. They are very anxious to have houses to live in, instead of lodges, and many of them intend to get out logs and bark for the erection of a number during the ensuing summer. Their crops of potatoes have been abundant and excellent. The Ance Indians, I learn, will have a great quantity for sale. The Indians near the Sault have expressed a desire to obtain land, on which to build and live like the white people. Their visits to the village are not so frequent, and their stay seldom longer than necessary to make their sales and purchases, and to receive articles from the blacksmith's shop. Instances of drunkenness are fewer than formerly amongst those visiting the Sault. Could the annuity payment be made in July or the early part of August, it would be of advantage to all, more especially to those from a distance, as they remain a month or six weeks at Whitefish point before they receive their annuities. Were they furnished with goods and provisions by the government to the amount of their annuities, they would derive more benefit from them than by receiving payment in money.

The progress in learning of their children, at the schools of the Sault, is not such as to justify the annual expenditure, under the treaty, for education. There appears to be a decreasing disposition on the part of parents to send their children to school. Many of those who have left school apparently derive little advantage from what they have learned, and frequently fall into dissipation and indolence.

When they are taught to read and write, and cipher, and instructed in useful trades, they will be better prepared to gain a subsistence. I know of no instance of an Indian being employed, unless it be in such services as can be performed by an uneducated Indian.

Sickness has prevailed at the Sault among the Indians, which has been fatal in seveal cases to children and old persons.

Not an instance of riotous or disorderly conduct amongst the Indians has occurred during the year.

In consequence of the resignations of the carpenter and blacksmith at the Ance, in the early part of the season, and the difficulty of supplying their places in proper time, the requisite reports and returns are not received. The operations of their successors are conducted with vigilance and promptitude.

The farmer will have hay and oats enough to keep the yoke of oxen under his care.

The Ance band have a yoke of oxen which they purchased with their treaty money, which they will be likewise able to keep during the winter.

The schools of the missions at the Ance are well attended, and give general satisfaction. The efforts of the missionaries for the welfare and happiness of the scholars under their charge at the Ance, are acknowledged and commended by all who have visited these missions.

The above, and the accompanying papers, numbered from one to seven inclusive, are respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES ORD.

To. WM. A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

No. 9.

CHOCTAW AGENCY,
October 10, 1846.

SIR: The necessity of discharging duties assigned me in other quarters by the Department has prevented me from spending much time in the western superintendency since the date of my last report; I am, therefore, unable to do more at present than make a very brief statement of its condition.

So short a time has elapsed since the Cherokee treaty was concluded, that no opinion can be formed as yet of the probable result. If the expectations of the parties are realized and harmony is restored, the good effects will not be confined to the Cherokees. Apart from the actual violence and bloodshed which their unhappy dissensions have led to, many of them have ceased to cultivate the earth, more have abandoned their homes, and the impression has prevailed that a large portion intended to seek a new residence beyond the territory they now occupy. Thus the Indian tribes are not only deprived of the example which the foremost among them ought to set, but are led to regard their present location as by no means permanent. All feel that if the line they have been so often assured was to be the perpetual boundary between them and the whites is once broken, not one tribe only, but all, must move farther west. It is evident that with the prospect or probability of speedy removal, no man, certainly no community, can ever set seriously about the work of improvement. It is therefore not the least among the benefits which would result from the effectual settlement of the Cherokee difficulties, that all idea of a change of country will be effectually dispelled, so far as they are concerned. When it is once understood by the Cherokees that they are permanently established in their present homes, and that nothing further is to be gained by agitation, their leading men will doubtless apply themselves in earnest to the advancement not of their own people only, but of their race. That they will do this, we have the best assurance in the benevolent regard which they have manifested on various occasions for the welfare of other tribes. As a matter of course, efforts springing from the bosom of the parties to be benefited are more likely to prove successful than those, however well meant, which come from abroad. All, or nearly all that could be expected from external aid, I apprehend has already been done for the Indians. What remains—and it is considerable—must be done by themselves. The chief reliance, of course, is upon the proper training of youth; but this is necessarily a slow work, rather affecting future generations than the present, and limited to a comparatively small number. The Choctaws, for example, educate less than 500—not exceeding one-tenth of their children. If the unlettered, full-blooded Indians, especially the

males, could be induced to apply themselves more generally to agricultural or mechanical pursuits; if they could get in the way of exchanging more extensively produce instead of annuity moneys, for supplies furnished by traders, the results would unquestionably be speedily and perceptibly beneficial. The main obstacle to the improvement of the Indian is found in his aversion to labor. "He disappears," it has been well remarked, "before the white man, simply because he will not work." To get rid of this obstacle is the problem. It has already been partially overcome in the semi-civilized tribes. Among all of them men are occasionally found of industrious habits; and the demand for their labor, whenever it has existed, has been supplied to some extent; but this, unfortunately, in most cases does more harm than good, as the tendency is generally to expose them to demoralizing influences. When they work in the States, but few of them can resist the temptation to spend their wages for liquor. If some mode could be devised of employing them profitably at home, and the desire to accumulate could be aroused, very much would be effected.

The report of their agent and other accounts represent that the Creeks have made fine crops this year. It is said that they work more and raise more corn, in proportion to their numbers, than any other tribe. They have for some time past been in the habit of bringing rice into Arkansas and into the Choctaw country for sale. The quantity raised during the past season, I am informed, is much larger than usual.

The Creeks complain very much that goods are still sent in place of money for the interest on what is due them for lost property. So far as the government is concerned, the substitution is exceedingly expensive; the cost of getting the goods from New York to the Creek agency amounting every year to nearly 5 per cent. on their value. The sole object is to benefit the Indian by protecting him from fraud in securing the full worth of his money, and by furnishing him with articles he requires cheaper than they could otherwise be obtained. But the Creeks say that the articles are not generally such as are wanted; that even if they were, they are never received until long (sometimes a year) after the other annuities, and that they cannot be conveniently and equitably divided among the proper recipients, the owners of the lost property. As to protection from imposition, one single fact they mention speaks for itself. A majority of the claims of the Upper Creeks were sold in advance this year, at a considerable sacrifice, to one of their own people. My own opinions on this subject have been repeatedly expressed. I have never doubted that the best course for the Indian was to pay him in money, and then give him an opportunity to expend it to the best advantage by encouraging competition among traders. In this way you not only please the Indian best, but you take an effectual mode of promoting civilization.

No report has been received at this office from the sub-agent for the Seminoles. Their leading men have gone with a large party on a hunting expedition to the prairies, and are not expected to return until spring. It is understood that the game has become exceedingly scarce, and in all probability one or two trips of this kind will teach the Seminoles that they can only look to the proceeds of their labor for subsistence.

You have already been informed that the Chickasaws are desirous of procuring another country. The object is to dissolve their connexion with the Choctaws, among whom the Chickasaws, in 1837, purchased the right to settle and live, with separate subordinate jurisdiction over a particular

tract known as the Chickasaw district, one of the four into which the Choctaw country is divided. This district is ruled by Chickasaw officers exclusively, but is subject to the laws of the Choctaw general council, in which it is fully represented. Not more than one-third of the Chickasaws live in their own district. The rest are scattered among the Choctaws, who speak the same or very nearly the same language, and with whom they intermarry; and as the Choctaws are four times as numerous, they very naturally fear that at no distant day they will become merged in that tribe, and thus lose their separate national existence. Upon this apprehension a few of the leaders have operated for the purpose of getting the main body beyond the reach of influences likely to prevent them from acquiring control of the Chickasaw fund. I am satisfied that the Chickasaws could not procure a better country; and as the evil they dread is rather of an imaginary than a real character, true kindness requires that all idea of removal should be discouraged. At present they are doing very well. They have erected several buildings for public worship, made large appropriations for schools, and raised 40,000 bushels of corn this year over and above what will be required for consumption. To say nothing of the wealthier half-breeds, who own large cotton plantations, very many of the uneducated full-blooded Indians have valuable improvements on the routes travelled by the Texan emigrants. They find a ready market for their produce, and are learning to acquire and take care of property. To all of this class the evils necessarily resulting from removal would more than counterbalance any possible good.

It will be seen that the Neosho sub-agent gives a favorable account of the tribes under his charge. He makes no mention of the party of New York Indians that visited the Senecas not long since, and applied to the Department for permission to reside among them. I have recently learned that several have died, and that the rest are likely to return to their proper homes in the neighborhood of Fort Scott.

About 1,000 Choctaws have joined their brethren in the west during the past year. The greater part, so far as I can learn, have suffered, like all other new comers, from the change of climate; some of them to a very great extent, particularly the Leaf river Indians, who emigrated in May last. Before they left Mississippi I paid them their scrip, and was struck with their appearance in many respects. They are distinguished from the other Mississippi Choctaws by the circumstance that most of them are members of Christian churches. Many years since, one of their number, Toblee Chubbee, became a convert, and exerted all his influence, which seems to have been considerable, in reforming his people. He induced them to lead sober and industrious lives, to abandon the habits of Indians, and to dress and live like white people. For the most part they had comfortable homes, and it was with some difficulty they were persuaded to emigrate; in fact, not until they had seen some of their western brethren, and heard their accounts of the schools, churches, and other improvements in the west. When they did go, they not only had more property, but were altogether superior in appearance to any Indians I had seen in Mississippi. As I had taken considerable pains to persuade them to remove, it may be conceived that I felt greatly shocked, on my recent return to this place, to find them all, without an exception, greatly reduced by disease. The other emigrants I have not seen, but understand they have

suffered nearly if not quite as much. Nothing is allowed them by government for medicines or medical attendance. This I cannot but regard as wrong. The country they leave is healthy. Some of them were, prior to their emigration, the most hearty, robust looking people I have ever seen. They leave against their own inclination, at the solicitation of the government. On the route, when they seldom need it, medical aid is furnished; but after their arrival, when sickness is inevitable, they get none. By affording very little assistance, many lives might be saved. Besides, health and strength are more essential during the first year after their removal than at any subsequent period, as they have their cabins to build, farms to open, and other labors to perform, incident to a change of residence.

Those who came in 1845, and about half of this year's emigrants, have either made or purchased improvements in the different districts, and gone to work. They have harmonized with the other Choctaws better than could have been expected. As far as I have been able to observe, the best feelings prevail among them. Some of the new comers have been elected to office by the old settlers.

It is, of course, impossible to form an opinion at this time of the probable result of the efforts to effect an emigration this fall. There is every reason to believe that there will be a much more hearty co-operation on the part of the agents or attorneys than heretofore. Those who control the different parties, however, have so long restrained them from emigrating, that they will find it difficult to persuade them to an opposite course.

As to the other, or, properly speaking, the western Choctaws, those who have so long been under my own immediate charge, I have but little to add to what has already been stated to the Department. Their crops during the past year have been remarkably abundant. Those who raise cotton, it is true, have lost a great deal from the ravages of the worm; but the main staple, corn, has never turned out better. The quantity of stock raised among them is increasing considerably, and many of them are getting into the way of raising sheep, to which their country is well adapted. Their national council, which is now in session, has before it a proposition to pass laws for the collection of debts, which heretofore has not been done, though their courts frequently try the right of property in cases of some magnitude. At this time a suit is pending in one of them involving an estate valued at $20,000. These courts are regularly organized, with judges and juries, and the suits are conducted on both sides by professional advocates, of which there is a large number. There are also among the Choctaws several ministers of the gospel, chiefly full blooded Indians.

Further and more satisfactory information in regard to the Choctaws can be given when the statistical returns, recently called for by the Department, are completed. These can, perhaps, be more easily furnished by the Choctaws than by most other tribes, as their organization is peculiarly favorable; the three districts being sub-divided into sixty companies, each company headed by a captain, living in the midst of, and personally acquainted with, his people and their condition.

In conclusion, it gives me pleasure to express the opinion that, notwithstanding the country is involved in a war, the utmost confidence may be placed in the different tribes in this superintendency. Apart from the deep interests they have at stake in their annuities and investments, I am more

than ever convinced that their sympathies are entirely with the government and people of the United States.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, &c.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 10.

CHEROKEE AGENCY,
Cherokee Nation, September 20, 1846.

SIR: In conformity with the regulations of the Indian Department, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report of the condition and affairs of the Cherokee tribe west of the Mississippi river:

I take occasion to premise, that the unhappy political animosities and internal feuds which have existed among these people as a nation, for several years past, have, to a considerable extent, checked their progress, and paralyzed their advancement in the advantages of education and agricultural pursuits; and the deplorable effects of those elements of discord, which have so frequently broken forth within the last year, have kept the community under a feverish excitement, and habitual disquietude. But, surrounded by those disdvantages as these people have been, yet many of them evince a laudable zeal in the promotion of education, agricultural pursuits, domestic economy, and industry, the beneficial effects of which are to be seen among those who have thus directed their attention, in the neatness and style in which they live, with all the essential necessaries and comforts of life about them; and I am much pleased to be enabled to remark, from actual observation, that the wearing apparel manufactured from the raw material in the nation, by female industry, in the application of spinning wheels and looms, would well compare with the household economy and domestic productions of private and family occupations of the same character in most of the States.

Religious denominations, church members, and institutions for education.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions among the Cherokees have four stations, the guardianship and care of which are assigned to the following gentlemen, missionaries:

Rev. S. A. Worcester, Park Hill mission.
Rev. Eleazer Butler, Fairfield do.
Rev. Worcester Willie, Dwight do.
Rev. John Husk, Honey Creek do. } *Native preachers.*
Rev. Stephen Forman, Fork Hill do. }

The aggregate number of church members connected with this missionary institution is 249.

The whole number of scholars taught at the Park Hill mission for the past year has been 33: the average attendance of pupils is estimated at 16, eleven of whom were Cherokees, and five white children.

Connected with Mr. Worcester's mission, he is intrusted with the care

and supervision of a printing press, from which are issued a large number of religious tracts and moral essays, spelling-books, almanacs, &c.; some of which are printed partly in Cherokee, and partly in English—some in Choctaw, and some in the Creek language.

The Dwight mission institution is devoted exclusively to the education of females, and its operation appears to be very judiciously arranged, as well for the purpose of promoting education as for the system adopted affording the means of instruction in the essential and necessary branches of domestic pursuits and household economy. Connected with the details of this institution there are ten persons employed, to wit: Rev. Worcester Willie and Mrs. Willie, missionaries; Rev. Jacob Hitchcock and Mrs. Hitchcock, superintendents of secular affairs; Mr. James Orr superintends the farming department, aided by Mrs. Orr, who has the supervision of the household economy connected with this branch of business; Mr. Kellog Day is a regular bred mechanic, attached to this institution; Mrs. Day, Miss Ellen Stetson, and Miss Giddings, have charge of the girls during school hours, teaching spelling, reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, modern and ancient history, and composition; Miss Stetson instructs the girls also, when out of school, in knitting, spinning, needle-work, &c. About fifty scholars have attended this school the last year, though the average number in attendance is estimated at about forty.

The Methodist Episcopal church in the Cherokee nation is supplied with two missionary preachers; the Rev. Edward F. Peery being the presiding elder, under whose direction and care are the following reverend gentlemen, viz:

Rev. David B. Cumming, Rev. Thomas Ruble,
Rev. Thomas Burtolph, Rev. Andrew Cunningham.

Native preachers.

Rev. William Cory, Rev. William M'Intosh,
Rev. John F. Root, Rev. Sus-si-wa-le-to.

Their system of ministerial labors appears to be judicially arranged: while some are assigned to local duties, and more circumscribed bounds, others are required to extend their services over more comprehensive circuits, and thus, by a methodical system, which appears to be beneficially adjusted, their religious example and moral influence are extended to all parts of the nation.

The number of members attached to this church is estimated at 1,400.

In regard to the means by which the preachers are supported, it appears they are furnished by the society; and the aggregate appropriation for this purpose, at present, is $2,360.

There are four Sabbath schools in the nation under the care of this society.

I addressed a letter to Doctor Butler, who is the principal missionary in charge of the Fairfield mission; also to the Rev. Mr. Jones, of the Baptist mission, and to Mr. Payne, commissioner of common schools in the Cherokee nation, requesting each of those gentlemen to be so obliging as to furnish me with reports of the condition and progress of their respective charges. From some cause, I have received no communication from either of those gentlemen on the subject above referred to, and much regret that it is not in my power, owing to the absence of the desired information, to

make such representations in regard to those institutions as would be either useful or interesting.

For a more minute and detailed account than is herein set forth, in reference to the Park Hill and Dwight missions, and also of the Methodist Episcopal church in the Cherokee nation, I beg leave to refer to the reports of the Rev. Mr. Worcester and Rev. Mr. Hitchcock as to those two missions, and to the report of the Rev. Mr. Ruble as to the Methodist Episcopal church, which reports are herewith forwarded.

In regard to the temperance society in the nation, it is making considerable progress in the acquisition of members. I have not received a report from the secretary of that institution, though I have requested it. But, from the fact of its members amounting to 1,700, agreeable to last year's estimate, according to the best information I have been enabled to obtain as to its probable increase, I would suppose it must now number near or quite 2,000, whose united influence in the cause they so laudably promote, it is hoped and believed, bids fair to produce a very desirable effect on a large portion of the community.

In regard to the preachers and teachers whose names have been mentioned, I take occasion to remark, that I have not had an opportunity to form a personal acquaintance with all: those with whom I have become acquainted are exemplary in their habits and commendable in their deportment; and I feel authorized to add, upon information derived from reliable sources, that those whom I only know from character are no less worthy of the high trust confided to them, in impressing pious duties and moral principles generally among the people, and particularly in regard to those placed under their immediate care and tuition. And I take great pleasure in further adding, upon information the correctness of which I do not doubt, that the ladies who are engaged in tuition attend to the respective duties they have undertaken with a care and assiduity highly creditable to themselves as well as beneficial to their scholars.

There is a weekly newspaper printed at Tahlequah, the seat of government in the nation, edited by Mr. William P. Ross. This paper is printed partly in the English and partly in the Cherokee language, and I believe has quite an extensive circulation.

The Cherokee nation is abundantly supplied with salt water, and mostly of an excellent quality. Some two or three establishments are now in successful operation manufacturing salt, realizing a very handsome profit; and it only requires the application of adequate capital, aided by the necessary skill and enterprise, to make the business a source of much national wealth, there being many places, as I am informed, at which salt water could be procured.

In regard to the agricultural operations of the country, perhaps appearances are less favorable than they have been for several preceding years, which appear to be owing to the excited and unsettled state of affairs in the nation during the present year. Many fields are left entirely uncultivated this season. It is believed, however, there is sufficient land in cultivation to afford a supply for internal consumption, the appearance of crops now presenting the prospect of a fair average production, and there being many excellent farms in the nation which in size I would suppose range from 20 to 100 acres, according to the capacity of the proprietor. Such farms appear to be conducted with skill and industry, and offer a fair reward for the labor bestowed.

The staple productions of the country are corn, wheat, and oats. Some farms in the southern part of the nation are well adapted to the production of cotton, and afford pretty fair average crops of that article, thouh not equal to the production of a more southern latitude.

As the wild game of the woods is entirely exhausted, or nearly so, in the nation, there is therefore but little inducement now to indulge in the chase, either as a means of subsistence or object of amusement; and although many among the most indigent of the nation are disinclined to the pursuit of steady habits of manual labor, and under moderate inducements would still prefer the hunter's life, yet, under existing circumstances they find it essentially necessary to devote some portion of their time to the cultivation of small pieces of ground as a means of obtaining subsistence.

Legislative, judicial, and executive departments.

The legislative department consists of an executive committee and national council. By a regulation of the government the nation is divided into eight districts, each of which is entitled to two members in the executive committee, and three in the national council. The executive officers and legislative body are elected by the popular vote of the nation, and hold their offices for four years.

The judicial department consists in the establishment of a supreme court, composed of a chief justice and four associate judges; and two circuit courts. The nation being divided into two judicial circuits, a circuit judge is appointed for each. There are eight district courts, there being eight districts in the nation: a judge is appointed for each district.

There are, therefore, connected with the judiciary system fifteen judges.

The supreme court holds its session annually; and having appellate jurisdiction as well as original jurisdiction in some cases, it decides upon controverted points of law brought up from the circuit courts for final action. The circuit and district courts hold their sittings semi-annually.

The principles of the government in *form* partake very much of the republican system of the government of the United States, and of the different States. In regard to judicial proceedings, the technicalities observed in the transaction of business in the State courts are not required, and perhaps it is best so. The important right of trial by a jury of the nation, and of the parties to plead and be impleaded, either personally or by council, is wisely interpolated into the Cherokee system of jurisprudence.

The executive branch of the government is composed of a principal and an assistant chief. In the absence of the principal, the executive duties devolve on the assistant chief.

Cherokee difficulties.

In regard to the repeated murders and other outrages growing out of the political animosities and party divisions of the Cherokee people, to which I have slightly adverted in the commencement of this report, I conceive it would be unnecessary for me at this time to go into a minute and detailed account of the facts and circumstances connected with these transactions, as I have endeavored to keep the Department advised of those occurrences as they transpired; and this conclusion is superinduced from the fact of Colonel Medill, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, having lately made an elaborate

report to the honorable the Secretary of War, in relation to the disturbances and difficulties of the different parties in the nation, on which the whole grounds of their respective complaints have been thoroughly examined and so fully set forth, that it is believed nothing I could now say would throw any additional light on the general subject of their national difficulties. I will, however, briefly remark, that since the first of November last there has been thirty four murders committed in the nation, including two or three cases close to the line. I think it proper to explain, though, that from the best information I could obtain, about twelve of those cases resulted from causes unconnected with political strife, or party animosities; the balance may be fairly attributed to that source.

It is a matter of notoriety, that all the parties to this great Cherokee controversy have appealed to the President of the United States, setting forth their respective grievances and causes of discontent in the most forcible lights and imposing forms their respective cases were susceptible of receiving, and that he has heard them with patience and attention, manifesting a deep solicitude for the final adjustment of this long-pending and complicated subject; and it is believed he has been actuated from considerations of liberality and of justice in the appointment of a commission, of high reputation for integrity of purpose and soundness of judgment, to investigate their respective demands, and settle all matters of difference between the parties; as well to reconcile their mutual allegations against each other, as to adjust any equitable and proper claims they may be entitled to on the government.

The labors of those gentlemen, it is hoped, will restore quietude to these people, and thereby re-unite them in their national ties and long-lost brotherly attachment; which event, it is believed, would prevent a recurrence of the calamities with which they have been so unfortunately enthralled; the clouds of discord with which they have been so thickly surrounded, would be thereby dissipated, and a new and brighter era dawn upon their national policy and social intercourse, the happy effects of which would soon be visible in their political economy, the harmony of the judicial administration, and the general prosperity of the nation.

If, however, it should be found impracticable to effect these desirable objects, the design of which has required much labor and patient investigation, why then it would seem, as a dernier resort, that a final separation, on some terms, must be the alternative.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

JAS. McKISSICK,
Agent for Cherokee nation west.

Major W. Armstrong,
Acting Superintendent, &c., Choctaw Agency.

No. 11.

Creek Agency, *October* 1, 1846.

Sir: But little change has taken place in the condition of the Creeks since my report of last year. The crops of the present year are abundant; so much so that a large surplus of almost every thing cultivated by them

will be left for sale. Large quantities of rice have been raised—principally by the people of the upper towns. This is an article not generally cultivated to any extent heretofore, and very seldom for sale until this year. I am informed that much of it, well cleaned, can be had on the Canadian at quite a low price. Stocks of horses, cattle, and hogs, are becoming abundant; and large numbers of the latter will be offered for sale during the approaching winter.

The only event of notice that has transpired during the past year is the arrival, in their country west, of one hundred and four emigrant Creeks. They express themselves as being much pleased with their new country. They are quite an industrious class, and have made fine crops; and have saved from their rations sufficient stock cattle to satisfy their present wants. I regret to state that they have suffered much from sickness, though not more than could be reasonably expected from the hardships incident to a journey of such extent, and undertaken at such a season of the year. Those who have been sick are now recovering their health, and, as they are generally temperate in their habits, they will doubtless hereafter enjoy it.

The general council of the nation commenced its sittings on the 22d ultimo. One of the most important acts dependent upon it, was the appointment of a second chief of the lower towns—that office having been rendered vacant by the death of U-fau-la-harjo. The office has devolved upon Mr. Benjamin Marshall, formerly national interpreter, an educated half-breed of wealth and standing. He is of course favorably inclined to religion and education, and much good may be anticipated to arise from his appointment. I am happy to state that the council is at present engaged in a revision of the laws of the nation, many of which, though not sanguinary, are unnecessarily severe and arbitrary. No change in the system of the government of the nation can be yet expected.

The establishment and location in the nation of several tradesmen and mechanics, citizens of the United States, speak in favorable terms of the advancement of these people in civilization. The example also of some, in causing the erection of neat and substantial houses for dwellings, has been followed by many. There are two tailors, one cabinet-maker, five carpenters, one silversmith and jeweller, one bricklayer, two masons, one boot and shoemaker, one mill-wright, one miller, and one blacksmith, who follow for a livelihood their different trades and occupations, and are encouraged to reside in the nation by the patronage of the Indians. The water-mill, built by the upper Creeks out of their annuity, is in operation, and contributes much to their comfort. They also employ an additional blacksmith, who they pay out of their annuity.

The school at the Presbyterian Mission is the only one of importance now in the nation. As regards its condition, I beg leave to refer you to the accompanying report of the Rev. Mr. Loughridge, the principal of the institution.

The manual labor schools promised the Creeks by the treaty of the 4th January, 1845, have excited great attention. Their erection is anxiously hoped for by many.

Depredations committed by different roving bands of Osages upon the property of Creek citizens, and which have engendered rather hostile feelings, are the only things calculated to disturb the general harmony and

peace of this section; and there is but little doubt entertained that this difficulty will be amicably settled.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES LOGAN, *Creek Agent.*

Capt. W. Armstrong,
Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 12.

Chickasaw Agency,
September 1, 1846.

Sir: In making this report there will be only a slight difference from my last.

The Chickasaws, in September, 1845, received an annuity of sixty thousand dollars. Up to that time, and during the payment, there was considerable contention and unfriendly feeling among some of the Chickasaws, all of which was reported to the honorable the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, by you, at the time. I am happy to say that that feeling has in a great measure subsided, and apparently better feelings exist.

The health of the nation for the last year has been remarkably good, and at this time, which is considered the most unhealthy season of the year in all the south and west, they are enjoying better health than they have been since they emigrated.

Their crops are abundant this year. They have had a fine season, and have not been idle. They will have a surplus of at least forty thousand bushels of corn, for which, unfortunately, they will have no market. Their crops of cotton, wheat, oats, and rye, are much better than they have been any previous years.

It is pleasing, sir, to see the red people improving so fast in agriculture. Their stocks of horses and cattle are also improving, both as to quality and number. In a few years they will have an abundance, and will be able to send large lots to market. Their country, for stock raising, is superior to any I ever saw. On the prairies, their horses and cattle can subsist during the winter, and keep in good order. There is no such thing known as feeding stock cattle or out horses, with the Chickasaws, at any season of the year.

The Chickasaws still continue to move into their district, and those who have recently moved in are much pleased. If those who still reside in the Choctaw district (and at some considerable distance too) would examine the country, in two or three years nearly all of them would move in. The more I explore and examine their district, the more valuable I find it to be. There is land enough of good quality, well adapted to the culture of corn, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes, and beans, for double the number of their tribe. Their district is superior to either of the other districts of the nation in land, water, and minerals. I have seen specimens of iron ore, found in large quantities in the district, that were said (by good judges) would yield seventy-five or eighty per cent. There are some good salt springs that could be worked to great advantage, and there are several medical springs, which have proved to be of great benefit to invalids who have attended them during the two last summers.

About eighteen months since the Chickasaws made an agreement with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to establish a manual labor school in their district; which agreement was to be approved by the honorable Secretary of War. When it was submitted to him, he made some few objections to it, and returned it to the Chickasaw council for their further consideration. At the council which was held on the 24th ultimo, they entered into another agreement with the same church, which they are in hopes will meet the cordial approbation of the honorable Secretary. They appear to be more anxious now to have their children educated than they ever were since I have known them. I have been constant in my advice to them on that subject, and am in hopes, in a few years, to see every Chickasaw boy and girl at school. The Chickasaws have money enough to educate them all, and they could not put it to a better or more profitable use. A few letters from the honorable Secretary of War and Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to the Chickasaws, on the subject of education and building up academies, would be thankfully received, and would cause them to push forward in the "great and good cause."

The Rev. E. B. Duncan and lady, of the Methodist Society, have been engaged with a small school among the Chickasaws for the last two years, and I am happy to say that the children under their care have improved very much. Mr. Duncan has also preached to the natives, and has been well and kindly received. The Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, a Presbyterian minister, who resides near Fort Towson, visits the Chickasaws once a month, and he has also met with a kind reception. It will not be out of place here to name a circumstance that speaks well of the natives: they have, during the last summer, built two large churches for the purpose of public worship.

There are three public blacksmith shops for the Chickasaws. One is within four miles of the agency; one near Fort Towson, and one on Brushy creek, about sixty-five miles from the agency. Mr. Srygley and Mr. Caudle, who occupy the first-named shops, have discharged their duties well. Mr. Lewis, who occupied the shop on Brushy, I was compelled to discharge for neglect of duty.

Several of the half-breeds have blacksmith shops of their own. Some have fine horse mills for the purpose of grinding corn and wheat, and some have most excellent cotton gins.

I regret to say that some of the Shawnees and Kickapoos have committed some depredations upon the Chickasaws this year, in the way of stealing horses, and killing cattle and hogs. Some of those tribes of wild Indians that live on Red river, that treated with Gov. Butler and Col. Lewis, are still committing depredations upon the citizens of Texas; and I have but little doubt but that some few of the Shawnees and Kickapoos are doing the same, in the way of stealing horses. I would not be the least surprised if the government would be compelled to take the same measures to make those Indians peaceable, that General Washington did with the Northwestern tribes in 1794. If they will not hear the talk of the President, make them hear it. Let them know, and know well, that our citizens are not to be murdered, nor their property stolen from them.

Fort Washita is situated on the False Washita river, about twelve miles east of the small Cross-timbers, which is near the route that all the disaffected Indians from the north go south. From forty to sixty miles there are a number of what we call wild Indians, who could come into the set-

tlements either north or south of Red river, commit depredations, and be off without our being able to follow and recapture our property, owing to the small number of troops now at the fort. The fort is now commanded by that valuable officer Brevet Major George Andrews, and he has only a part of a company of infantry. From the peculiar situation of Fort Washita, there should be at least two companies of dragoons added to the command now stationed there; which amount of troops would be sufficient to render that protection which is necessary. I will take the liberty of enclosing to you a letter directed to me by the citizens of this district, on the subject of their being protected.

Sir, it is with great pleasure and gratification that I can say to you, that I have not seen a single *Chickasaw drunk this year;* but regret that I cannot say the same for some of the white men in their nation:

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,
United States Agent for the Chickasaws.

Major Wm. Armstrong,
Acting Superintendent Western Territory.

No. 13.

Neosho Sub-agency,
September 17, 1846.

Sir: I again have the honor of reporting the condition of the Indians in this sub-agency. The Quapaws are improving in many respects. They have used more industry during the last year than they usually have; they have, nearly every one of them, who had any farms at all, enlarged them; they have repaired their fencing, and many of them that had no farms before have fenced and broke them fields, and have corn growing this season. I think they have at least a fourth more ground in cultivation this season than they ever have had before. They have worked their crops better than usual. Their farmer early last spring stocked their ploughs, and had all their farming utensils in good repair; he then encouraged them to begin to farm early; he would go with them in the woods and show them the kind of timber that was best for rails; he then showed them how to make their fences; he showed them the best ground to make farms on; he taught them how wide to make their corn rows, and how many grains of corn to plant in each hill, none of which they appeared to understand before. He sowed some wheat for several of them last fall, and they reaped good crops of wheat this summer, which has pleased them very much. They have had several sprees of drinking since they laid by their crops, in which several Indians have been killed or stabbed; they promise now that they will drink no more; but they will drink if they can get the liquor. The only possible way to keep them from drinking is to keep the liquor from them. I have just visited the school among them; there are about twenty scholars, mostly boys; they all look healthy and intelligent, and are advancing tolerably fast in learning.

I have no doubt but this school will prove a great blessing to the Quapaws. The chiefs are still very anxious, they say, that their Great Father should send them their money for education purposes. I have been fur-

nished with a report of this school by the Rev. Samuel G. Patterson; it is herewith enclosed, and marked A. The number of Quapaws will prove considerably greater this year than the last, as many of their Red river brethren have come and settled themselves with them here.

The Senecas have been very sickly during the last year, and many of them have died. There is no other visible change among them since my last report.

The mixed band of Senecas and Shawnees have been generally healthy, although they live so near the Senecas. I know of no alteration whatever among this tribe since my last report. They have had good crops growing, and will raise a plenty to live on the present year.

The smiths among all these tribes keep them supplied with every necessary tool to work with.

Every thing within the bounds of this sub-agency appears to be peace, harmony, and good-will; not the slightest interruption pervades the country to my knowledge.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

JAMES S. RAINS,
Neosho Indian Sub-agent.

Maj. WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Choctaw Agency.

No. 14.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October* 15, 1846.

SIR: Under the regulations of the Department, it is my duty to report to you the condition of the tribe committed to my charge. In pursuance of which I herewith make known:

That, since my report of last year, nothing has occurred to disturb the peaceful relations of the Seminoles with the United States, or with any of the surrounding tribes. And although conflict of interests between the Seminoles and Creeks was anticipated, and provided for by the commissioners who made the late treaty, I am happy to say nothing has occurred which required *even a reference* to the United States authority.

They appear to be satisfied in being guarantied by the treaty to have the right of self-government, so far as relates to their "town laws," &c. willingly acknowledging the supremacy of the Creek "general council."

The tribe is divided into twenty-five "towns," or bands. Last year there were twenty-seven; but two of them having lost their headmen, have attached themselves to other bands. Each town has its own governor, or headman, "town laws," &c.—the general council of the Seminoles having a supervisory control over all the towns; in which council a majority of the headmen, with the approbation of the governor, or king, are competent to pass laws for the government of the whole people, provided they do not conflict with the laws of the "Creek general council."

Micco-nuppe is the Seminole king, or governor; Cowoch Coochee, or Wild Cat, his "counsellor and organ," who has to assist him in determining what the king *ought to do;* and five other chiefs—to wit: Tusse Krai, Octi-archee, Pascofar, Echo-emathla, and Passuckee-yoholo—who may be called the executive council.

The greater number of the Seminoles live between the North fork of Canadian and Little river, on the north of the main Canadian; their territory is mostly prairie land, with, however, a sufficient quantity of timber for all the purposes of many times their number. A large proportion of the land is good, and well adapted to the culture of all kinds of grain; and for stock-raising it is unsurpassed by any portion of the Indian territory I have seen.

The climate is variable, and the bleak blasts of winter, driving across those prairies, are peculiarly severe on the Seminole, coming from so genial a climate as Florida; where such a thing as a snow storm, they say, never was seen. Last winter was one of the severest ever experienced in the west; and the "big frosts" which were sent by the "Great Spirit," caused much suffering, and not a little grumbling among them, and induced many to deny the words and doubt the wisdom of their "Great Father," who "promised them in exchange for Florida, a country better suited to their habits of life," &c.

Another source of discontent among them was the want of provisions. They had removed too late in the spring to raise any considerable quantity of corn, and by the provisions of the treaty they were subsisted only six months, which ended in January; from which time until in May, (when I procured corn for them on the credit of their annuity,) many of them suffered immensely. Although the hardships of last winter may ultimately be of benefit to them; yet it was an ordeal through which, to pass, however serviceable to future results, any of us would have murmured at.

As a body, the Seminoles are, like the Creeks, an agricultural people—their principal subsistence being corn and vegetables. There have been among them the past year some, whom I am aware of, living solely by the "hunt." Every man has his rifle, but he looks to the earth for his subsistence; and the proceeds of a hunt are for the purposes of trade with the merchants. How long this will continue I cannot say, but think, hereafter, there will be many who will depend, like the roving Delaware, altogether on the hunt.

Wild Cat and several of his men, after his return from the Comanche country, where he had been with Commissioners Butler and Lewis, went out on an "exploring hunt." Since which, probably 250 men under him (Wild Cat) and other "headmen," have gone out, intending to remain several months. They, before leaving, got a considerable quantity of merchandise to trade to the Prairie Indians, to buy peltries, &c., with which they are to extinguish their home debt; and it much depends upon the success of this first party whether many engage in the chase (and traffic combined) for their future support.

On the Canadian, at different points, from 5 to 20 miles distant from my agency, are located several bands of Delawares, Shawnees, Qua-saw-das, and Kickapoos—numbering in all about 200 men—who rely solely on hunting and trading with the wild Indians for a living. Their women and children are generally left at their towns to make a little corn, &c., for themselves, while the hunters are out; which is generally from September to April or May. These bands have been there for several years, and are uniformly friendly—not only with our border tribes, but with the whites also; and, indeed, are looked upon by the Creeks and others as a protection from the incursions of the Prairie Indians. They are allowed, I believe, no other privileges than the location as a home; and nothing is expected in return but their friendship and assistance, if necessary, against

roving parties. I refer to these bands and their character (although many of them are beyond my agency, over the Canadian) merely as information to the Department; and, as being the nearest government officer, it might be expected I should have an eye to them.

The Seminoles yet remaining in Florida are the subject of considerable solicitude to their western brethren. They desire them to remove, and would assist in persuading them to do so, being convinced that they would be better off united to their tribe, than isolated as they are; and, if it is the intention or desire of the government ever to remove them, I believe the plan proposed by me to the Department, with the concurrence of the western Seminoles, would best effect that object; and I hope, therefore, it may be acted on.

The Seminoles at this time, I am confident, are disposed to be quiet and as friendly as most of the Indians on our frontier; and have had experience sufficient to learn them it is to their interests to be so. If there has been any one thing more than another which tended to change their views about the United States, it was the visit of Wild Cat and delegation to this city two years since. They then, for the first time, had the least conception of the strength of our government; as they certainly did not learn it in the Florida war. The effect of which was rather to raise them in their own, as it did in the estimation of other tribes, as "braves and warriors," than to break their spirit as a nation. These are facts given to the Department that it may view, in a proper light, the feelings of the Seminoles. The real desire of peace and rest, and their own interests pecuniarily, rather than a want of the spirit of resistance, induces them to keep order. In giving this opinion—living in the country, and having advantages which enable me to speak understandingly—I hope I may be excused by certain demagogues, who have no larger "hobby" to ride themselves into notice on than frightening old women and weak-minded men by their continual cries about the "defenceless frontier;" the "embittered and ruthless *Seminole*, just removed from the swamps of Florida, burning with all the *vengeful spirit* of the Indian," &c.; making "capital" for *themselves*, by "banking" upon the credulity of the ignorant.

That *bane* of the Indian, whiskey, continues to be carried up into the nation, and will in despite all the efforts to put a stop to it under the existing law. To effect anything like a cure of the evil, it is indispensable to have the co-operation of the Indian authorities themselves; but, when a tribe have not become sufficiently civilized to feel a moral restraint, it is out of the question to expect co-operation in putting down a moral evil; and I therefore think that it should be made to the interest of a certain body of Indians to capture whiskey, by giving them something in return for all they should capture and deliver to the United States authority; or, instead of destroying it, have it conveyed below the line and sold, and the amount above the necessary expenses paid to the individual capturing.

Of the progress of education among the Seminoles, but little can be said, as they neither have nor want a school; and I am satisfied that they would be improved by a school conducted only on the manual labor principle. Education itself holds out no inducement *to them;* and, therefore, it is necessary to adopt some plan by which the children will be provided for temporally, when the advance of the mind will be a consequent of their temporal improvement. This institution should be in the Seminole or Creek country—the former, if there are funds sufficient to have one dis-

tinct from the Creeks. Thus located, where the mother could see that her child was taken care of without trouble *to her*, it would occasion at first but little, and shortly no opposition. A distinct school would be preferable on account of the feeling which would soon grow up in its favor as the Seminole school; but if the funds for Seminole education are not sufficient, it would then be advisable to add them to the Creek fund, with the privilege of sending a certain number of Seminole boys. As to little "cornfield schools," it would be next thing to throwing money away; and to take them off entirely among the whites would be, in my opinion, worse; and, moreover, would not be consented to by the Indians.

The crops of the present year are generally good; and the Indians having opened and worked a considerable quantity of land, the yield will be sufficient for all their wants until next season. Some few individuals have their own fields separate and apart from the "town field"—each "town" having one in common for all of the band.

The products are corn, sweet potatoes, rice, beans, and ground-nuts or goober peas.

Their cabins are much better than those they have heretofore lived in, although nothing to brag on, and furnished, not with "articles too numerous to mention," but such only as are absolutely necessary—a stool or two, pestle and mortar, "hominy baskets," two or three pots or kettles, with "sofky" spoons, and a beef hide in the corner, which serves as a bed.

The issue of agricultural implements (provided for in late treaty) instead of money, is much better for the Seminoles, and has, so far, given satisfaction. I deem it proper here to record my present opinion in regard to paying Indians their annuity partly in goods. Where the Indians have advanced no farther towards civilization than the Seminoles, I (contrary to the expressed opinion of most Indian agents) believe that it is decidedly to their benefit to receive a part in goods—receiving nearly double the amount from government which they would were the money expended by individuals in the Indian country for the same purpose; and it is further advisable, for the reason that, if the money were paid to them, there is at least two chances to one that the greater part would be spent for whiskey.

Since my last report, payment has been made for abandoned "improvements" in Florida to the amount of $12,600; and it is worthy of remark in this place, to say, to the credit of the Seminoles, that although there was no law to force them, or even influence used, they immediately and willingly paid all the debts which they had contracted and given "papers" for, taking nearly the whole amount turned over: showing an example of honesty to their *more civilized brothers*, (red and white,) which is well worthy of imitation.

If the Seminoles have any religion, I am not aware of it. I have not seen it; and I incline to the opinion that all their views on the subject may be expressed in the following words: "Live as you please, but die brave;" for, let death come in any form, only give them a chance to speak beforehand, and it will be "I'm a man and a warrior, and not afraid to die."

From the foregoing, you may judge *how far* the Seminoles have advanced in civilization; and, although I cannot discover the "rapid advances" which have been reported by predecessors, I am confident they have not retrograded; and equally certain that a long time must elapse, requiring the exertion and perseverance of the philanthropist, assisted by the fostering care of our government, before the Seminoles will be as far advanced

as what many of their red brethren now are. If, however, one were to judge of the condition of the various tribes by some of the "reports" given each year, commencing about fifteen years back, and read them in order, he would arrive at the conclusion that, at this time, the Indians were certainly on a footing with, if not superior to, the whites in improvement; but the payment of debts to merchants and others by the Seminoles, without the force of law, (referred to above,) would of itself debar *them* from claiming any degree of advancement in civilization.

Accompanying this report, I give you such statistics of the Seminoles as it is at present in my power to present.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-agent.

Hon. WILLIAM MEDILL,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 15.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, September 5, 1846.

SIR: In making this, my annual report, I shall necessarily have to confine myself in a great degree to some general observations, as no reports from the agents and sub-agents have yet been received.

During the last fall, the border tribes of Indians suffered severely from autumnal fevers, which prevailed to an unusual degree in the west: these fevers, in the hands of the physicians, readily yield to medical treatment; and, indeed, with the grand specific, quinine, at command, persons of ordinary intelligence, in the absence of the physician, manage them with a good deal of success; but in the absence of medical treatment, and with the poor and imprudent diet and irregular habits of the Indians, the fever often proves distressingly fatal, as was the case last fall with different tribes. An annual fund of six hundred dollars, if placed in the hands of the superintendent at St. Louis, to be invested in medicines and distributed to such persons among the different tribes as he might select to administer them to the Indians, would no doubt save much suffering and life.

With the exception of a few localities, the corn crop among the Indians last year was very abundant; several tribes raising a considerable surplus.

I have been gratified, from personal observation, to witness the rapid improvements among many of the tribes in agriculture and the general conveniences and comforts of life. The tribes among which these improvements are most visible are the Shawnees, Wyandots, Delawares, Kickapoos, Munsees, Stockbridges, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies of the Osages. The improvements among these people are, to my mind, evidently attributable to the happy influence exercised over them by their missionaries with their schools.

The school among the Iowas, under the direction of the Presbyterian mission, is now about to go into operation upon an extensive scale; the missionaries have the confidence of the Indians, and I shall look, with I think well-founded expectations, for successful results. The party of Iowas that went to Europe in 1844, under the conduct of Mr. Melody, re-

turned last fall evidently with impressions favorable to the adoption of the habits of the whites. Mr. Melody is entitled to much credit for the care which he took of them, in keeping them from places of vice, and placing them in positions where impressions are likely to be made in favor of Christianity and civilization.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has established a school among the Kanzas Indians, and as additional provision has been made by their late treaty for education, it is hoped that the school, with the missionary efforts, may do much for the improvement of these poor, degraded, yet docile people. The schools mentioned in my last report are progressing with favorable results.

The efforts of the government agents, seconded by the traders, have up to this time proved unsuccessful in keeping spirituous liquors out of the Indian country; it is brought in by the Indians and obtained from persons who keep it especially for them, just within the State line. The laws of the State have hitherto been ineffectual in suppressing this traffic. It is, I fear, only to be effected by the moral improvement of the Indians. We must look to the missionary and the schoolmaster as the most reliable means of effecting the improvement.

The school among the Pawnees was interrupted during the present summer by a large party of Sioux, who visited the village during the absence of the Pawnees on their summer hunt, committed depredations upon the property of the whites, and burned the Pawnee village. The Pawnee children who remained at school, were concealed in time by the whites by placing them in the cellars, otherwise they would have all been murdered. After the Sioux had retired, the whites evacuated the place and came to Bellevue, bringing with them the children, where I presume they will remain until the return of the Pawnees to their burnt village.

The Pawnees have a considerable fund for education and farming, which, if placed in the hands of the Presbyterian Missionary Society, (at the head of which is the Rev. Mr. Green, of Boston,) who have a mission among them, under such regulations as the Department might see fit to adopt for the establishing of a manual labor school, I believe that much might be done for their improvement. The farming operations among them by the government I consider a failure. I have no doubt they would receive much more grain from a manual labor farm in the hands of the missionary than they now do, besides the advantage of having their children taken care of and taught to work. The consent of the Pawnees would be necessary to effect the arrangement.

Not much, however, can be done for the Pawnees in the way of improving their condition until they are protected at home from their ruthless foes the Sioux. It is greatly to be hoped that the line of posts contemplated to be established from Missouri to the mountains, will tend to preserve peace between the different tribes.

I have suggested, in a former annual communication, the advantages that would result to the Indians in holding a general council, under the direction of the government, at some designated point, for the purpose of inducing them to enter into treaties of peace and friendship. A treaty of this kind was made by a large number of tribes in November, 1833, at Fort Leavenworth, under the direction of Mr. Ellsworth, and I am informed that its conditions were observed and respected for years. The simple circumstance of bringing them together in a friendly way, would have a good

effect; and were such a council held every three or four years, I have reason to believe its consequences would have been salutary. Surely the government, taking into view its humane and philanthropic policy towards the Indians, would be amply repaid, in the security of human life it would effect, for the two or three hundred head of cattle that might be consumed on the occasion.

The houses of the Osage chiefs, under their treaty of 1839, were built during the latter part of last year, and placed in the possession of those entitled to receive them.

The large sum in my hands for agricultural implements, stock, &c., for the Osages, remains, as you are aware, unexpended. I consider it unwise to expend it until they become more local in their habits, and have some practicable idea of the value of such supplies. Their mills, school-houses, fields, &c., for a manual labor school, are by this time nearly finished and ready for use. The Osages have frequently expressed a desire that their school should be placed under the direction of the Catholic mission. Your letter of the 19th March last, consenting that it should be so placed under certain prescribed conditions, was received and handed to the Rev. J. Van Dewelde. The acceptance of the conditions was declined by the board of advisers to whom he submitted your proposition, on the ground of their pecuniary inability to furnish the means necessary to start the institution into operation. Mr. Van Dewelde's reply was forwarded to you under cover of my letter of the 9th of July last, since which time no measures have been taken with regard to the school.

A fund of nine hundred dollars was raised by the ladies of the city of New York, in connexion with the Presbyterian Missionary Society, last spring, for the purpose of educating Ottoe and Omaha children, with a promise that it will be continued for some time. There is no school at present among either of these tribes. It is intended for the time being to take a certain number of these children to the Iowa school and mission, which is under the patronage of the same society. The society have it in contemplation to establish a mission and school among the Ottoes at some future day. It is to be hoped that this generous liberality on the part of the ladies of New York may be most profitably expended, in order that they may be induced to continue their liberal donations.

The Ottoes have a considerable fund for education and farming, besides a fund for agricultural assistance. I would suggest that the same disposition be made of these that I had the honor to recommend should be made of the Pawnee funds. Farming for the Ottoes by the government proved a complete failure, and has for several years past been abandoned. Their fund for agricultural assistance, whenever they shall give evidence of a disposition to use it profitably, shall be expended for them as provided by their treaty.

The Omahas are a poor dispirited people. They have for some years been living about eighty miles above Council Bluffs, near the Missouri river. Owing to the frequent attacks of the Sioux and Poncas, they have for several years made but little corn, and have consequently been exceedingly poor and destitute. Last fall they moved down for protection in the neighborhood of Bellevue, where they received considerable assistance from their friends the Pottawatomies. The six hundred dollars which you authorized to be used in procuring provisions for them, was of incalculable benefit; it enabled them to plant their corn and to stay at home and work it. The last

information I had concerning them, was that they had a fair prospect of raising a good crop.

The country immediately bordering on the north side of the Platte, and extending up for some distance between the Horn and Missouri rivers, is claimed by both the Ottoes and Omahas. It was on this disputed land that the Omahas settled last winter and planted their corn. The Ottoes threatened to drive them off. When I was at the Council Bluffs in May last, I called a council of the principal men of both nations, and gave them a talk on the subject. After a good deal of consultation on both sides, the Ottoes consented to let them remain, and they broke up and separated apparently in good humor with each other. I would beg leave to call your attention to my report of 1845, for my views in relation to the necessity and manner of settling this dispute about the land.

The Sacs and Foxes, as you are aware, have emigrated in a very irregular manner. A considerable portion of the Foxes with the head chief, Pow-e-check, are yet on the north side of the Missouri river, in the Pottawatomie country. The principal men have assured that they will move over this fall. A portion of the Sacs have planted corn on the Shawnee lands, near the Kanzas river, and a portion of them, with a part of the Foxes, have moved to the selection No. 3, on the Osage river, where it is expected they will all move during the next fall.

It is believed that the Pottawatomies, both of the Osage and the Council Bluffs, will, during the winter and the next spring, remove to their new homes on the Kanzas. I would, therefore, earnestly press the necessity of their being paid as early the next spring as possible the $50,000 for their improvements, and likewise the amount provided for their emigration. It will also be necessary during the spring and summer, should they remove, (as I have no doubt they will) that they should receive their subsistence money; and as they will be in an entirely new country, they will need the use of the interest on their improvement fund. Nothing is more important for preserving the respect of the Indians for the government, than a prompt compliance on its part with all the treaty stipulations. Before the Kanzas can emigrate, it will be necessary that their land should be surveyed, and a commissioner appointed to view the country west of the land which they have sold, to ascertain whether there is timber sufficient for their farming purposes; and if not, to select another location for them, agreeable to the provisions of their treaty. In my communication of the 3d of July last, I recommended that the duty should be assigned to agent Cummins.

In consequence of the removal of the Pottawatomies from the Osage, and the emigration of the Miamies to that neighborhood, it will be necessary to make some change in the agency. By a reference to the map you will observe that it will be geographically convenient to place the Peorias, Weas, Piankeshaws, and Miamies in the same sub-agency, and to attach the Ottowas and Chippewas to the Sac and Fox agency.

The Peorias have rapidly decreased within the last few years. They have no annuity, no smith, and live a considerable distance from where they can get any smiths' work done. They now number about sixty, and have a valuable body of land for its extent. They are anxious to sell, and to go and live with their neighbors, the Weas and Piankeshaws, who speak the same language, and are in fact the same people. The Weas and Piankeshaws would gladly receive them if they could bring with them a smith, which they need equally with the Peorias. I would suggest, for the purpose of saving this remnant of an excellent people from early extinc-

tion, that their land be purchased, and a smith given to them at a fixed price—paid, say $600, to cover all expenses of smith and shop—together with an annuity per capita equal to the Weas, which is quite small. I am aware that the government has no immediate use for the land, but I would urge it, as good policy on the part of the government, to extinguish the Indian title to lands that they have no need of, wherever it can be done on advantageous terms, and with benefit to the Indians.

The large body of unappropriated land on the Kanzas river is well adapted for the location of Indians; and I think the policy of the government should be to get as many of them located in that particular section of country as practicable. It is a farming country, and calculated to sustain a dense population; and the more closely the different tribes are brought in proximity to each other, the more efficient may be made the superintendence of the government, and the more the expenses of such superintendence be diminished. The policy of locating Indians upon large tracts of country, which are of no value to them except for agricultural purposes, I think has had a tendency to retard their improvement. I have observed that those neighborhoods that are most thickly settled, (provided they be not in villages,) advance more rapidly in general improvement than scattered settlements. By bringing them into close neighborhoods they will profit by the industry, enterprise, and success of each other. The lands lately obtained of the Pottawatomies, on the north of the Missouri river, were ceded to the United States by the first article of the treaty of Prairie du Chien of July 15, 1830, with the Sacs and Foxes, Medawakkanton, Nahpercoota, and Lasseton bands of Sioux, Omahas, Iowas, Ottoes, and Missourias, with this condition: "But it is understood that the lands ceded and relinquished by the treaty, are to be assigned and allotted, under the direction of the President of the United States, to the tribes now living thereon, or to such other tribes as the President may locate thereon, for hunting and other purposes."

It is evident from the conditions of the cession, that this land was not intended for whites, but for Indian purposes; and the government has heretofore acted upon this construction in relation to what is called the Platte purchase, and which now makes a part of the State of Missouri. By reference to treaties with the above-named parties (see Treaty Book, pages 674, 676, 683, 684, 690, and 694) it will be seen that the government entered into treaties with them for the final extinction of the Indian title to the Platte country before it was opened for white settlers; and, in these treaties, the government further pledges itself to a strict observance of the conditions of the treaty of 15th July, 1830.

The reservation is one which can be of no practical use to the Indians concerned, and I presume could be purchased at a small cost.

I would again call the attention of the Department to the necessity of buying out a road or roads to the mountains, and paying the Indians, through whose country they might pass, such compensation as the government might deem proper. No people, probably, are more tenacious of what they consider their rights, than the Indians. I do not believe that the amount they might be paid would be with them a matter of so much consideration as the acknowledgment of their rights by the government. A trifling compensation for this right of way would be calculated to secure their friendship towards the whites while passing through their country.

The condition of the Indians on the western prairies, who live almost

exclusively upon the buffalo, must, by the force of circumstances, in a few years be exceedingly precarious.

The buffalo is already greatly diminished in number, and, judging from the comparatively limited country upon which they range, must, in process of time, be entirely destroyed. The emigration to the west is already keeping up an almost continual tide of travel over the plains, and all experience proves that game rapidly disappears before the fire-arms of the white man. Notwithstanding that the Indians kill great numbers of the buffalo, they do not kill them wastefully; and are exceedingly careful not to alarm them when they have no use for them. Not so with the white man; he kills for the sake of killing; and complaints have reached this office from the Indians that the whites are wantonly destroying the buffalo—often killing them for their tongues.

When the buffalo becomes scarce, the stock and persons of the emigrants will hardly be safe in meeting with half-famished savages in pursuit of game, especially when they look upon the emigrants as the cause of the scarcity of their source of subsistence.

It would seem to me that the attention of the government should be directed to the future condition of these Indians, in order that the effect of the crisis, which must inevitably come upon them from the causes above referred to, may be relieved as much as possible. My personal knowledge of them and their country, does not enable me to make any suggestions; but it is to be hoped that the highly intelligent officer, Colonel Moore, who is now in the Upper Missouri, will make such suggestions as will be calculated to inform the Department in reference to the course that would be best calculated to promote the interests of those distant tribes, and to save them from final extinction.

There is at this time, and has been for several months past, a large number of Mormons (supposed to be from four to eight thousand) in the Indian country. They have passed into the Pottawatomie country at the Council Bluffs. A large number of them have crossed the Missouri river, and are on their way to Grand Island, in the Platte or Nebraska river, where they have made arrangements to winter. Another portion of them are desirous to remain until next spring on the Boyer river, in the Pottawatomie country; to which they have obtained the consent of the Indians. The sub-agent at that place reports that they are conducting themselves well, and do not seem disposed to interfere at all with the Indians. I have instructed him to use his influence to prevent a waste of timber by them.

I would beg leave to call your attention to the anomaly that exists in the compensation of the officers of this department. I presume that it is the desire of the government that the salaries of officers for similar services should be equal. The compensation to agents is $1,500, with the necessary houses for their residence furnished by the United States; that of the sub-agent is $750, with houses as for agents. There is not a shadow of difference in their duties, responsibilities, or authority. The only difference is in the mode of their appointment. I cannot see the least reason or justice why an agent with, in some instances, not a tithe of the responsibility of some of the sub-agents, and only separated by a few miles, should receive double the compensation. Common justice requires that the salaries of the agent and sub-agent should be equalized; and that the "sub" should be discontinued, as not at all applicable to their services.

The anomaly does not stop here: it equally applies to the compensation

of the superintendent. The business of this office has been regularly increasing for several years. The disbursements now annually amount to nearly $500,000; his salary is $1,500, out of which he has to pay house rent in this city, where it is presumed rents are as high as in any other city in the United States, and to be subject to many other expenses incident to a city life, which makes his salary very little better, if any, than the $750 of the sub-agent.

The superintendent's salary is much less than that of other officers of the government in this city, whose duties or responsibilities are not greater.

I would respectfully suggest the propriety of a revision of the existing rules and regulations of the Department, many parts of which are now obsolete. They might be greatly abridged and simplified; and I would also call your attention to the necessity of enlarging the power of the agents, &c., to administer oaths in the Indian country or within their respective agencies.

Permit me, before closing, to advert to one other subject which seems to me to demand the attention of the Department, namely: the Pottawatomie land reservation claims. These reservations were doubtless intended for the individual benefit of the reservees. Many of them have been already disposed of by consent of the President, and, if a tenth of the rumors be true in relation to the sales, with but little benefit to the reservees. These claims are a source of constant inquiry, complaint, and dissatisfaction on the part of the reservees, and the heirs of deceased ones. Most of them are entirely ignorant of the mode of doing business; and the lands are deteriorating in value from the removal of the timber by trespassers, and the accumulation of State taxes. It is extremely important that this cause of discontent should be removed, and that the government, if practicable, should take some steps to enable holders to dispose of their reservations to advantage. I would suggest that, for the information of parties claiming as reservees, a statement be made for each of the Pottawatomie sub-agencies, showing the reservations that have been sold, by whom, and to whom; also, those unsold, and stating in what cases the President will consent to sales; and also establishing rules for the guidance of both seller and purchaser.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Hon William Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington city.

No. 16.

Upper Missouri Agency,
September 21, 1846.

In compliance with the regulations of the Indian Department, I respectfully submit the following report:

My long communication of July 20, embodies in substance nearly all the information that I have been enabled to obtain, but not in a shape adapted to an annual report.

I met my predecessor, Major Drips, as I ascended the river, and delivered the letter of the head of the Department to him. On my arrival at

Fort Pierre, a horse and a mule were handed over to me by Mr. Picotte, of the American Fur Company, for which I receipted. He had nothing else belonging to the government.

The band of "Yancton Sioux" had been notified to assemble at Fort Lookout or Campbell's trading house, to receive $5,000 in such articles as their chiefs and braves had designated, in lieu of that amount stipulated by treaty to be delivered to them in agricultural implements, but which they had declined receiving. They had been disappointed in not receiving these articles the preceding year, and my reception would have been any thing but cordial had I not been so fortunate as to procure and bring them with me. Upon ascertaining that the goods were on board the boat, the Indians not only received me graciously, but with much more marked manifestation of pleasure than they usually display.

I have already furnished you a list of the articles purchased, delivered, and receipted for. The entire day was chiefly devoted to hearing and replying to the speeches of the headmen and braves. I availed myself of this occasion to explain very fully the objects of my location among them, and the anxiety of the President for their welfare. I informed them that their Great Grandfather (the President) regretted their unwillingness to receive agricultural instruments; that the buffalo, deer, and antelope were rapidly diminishing, and that they must in a short time turn their attention to agricultural pursuits, or perish; that the President deprecated the continuance of the wars they waged against the Pawnees, Arickarees, Gros Ventres, Crows, Ponkas, &c., as alike unnatural, wanton, and destructive to all parties; that I was especially instructed to ferret out and punish all those bad white men who introduced fire-water among them, and that I would reward them for every white man they arrested engaged in this unlawful traffic, or whose liquor they destroyed; that if their wars could not be otherwise restrained, the President would station his soldiers in their country to prevent them from destroying each other. To this "Iowa," the principal chief and orator, replied: That he fully concurred with me in the necessity of devoting a portion of their time to raising corn, pumpkins, squashes, beans, &c.; that he regretted more than I possibly could the introduction of "fire-water" among his people; that he never had used it, and hence his green old age. But his unmanageable young men went to St. Peter's and sold their skins, horses, and even squaws, for whiskey; that the use of it not unfrequently led to murders among themselves; that if I could be multiplied twenty times I could not guard against this evil over such an extensive territory; but perhaps the soldiers on the St. Peter's might break it up in that quarter if directed to drive bad white men from the public lands, and also from the Indian territory. Upon the subject of their internal wars he was very laconic and decided; remarking, "that if their Great Grandfather desired them to cease to war with their enemies, why did he not send each of them a petticoat and make squaws of them at once?"

He complained that petty tribes had been allowed schoolmasters, farmers, and blacksmiths, whilst the great Sioux nation had none.

I explained to him the reasons for this omission, and intimated that I had no doubt they could get a portion of their boys educated at the Choctaw Academy.

He answered, "No! They would return as the few who went to St. Louis had—drunkards—or die whilst away. *Here, here is the place—here*

it is always healthy." I left them with a promise to return about the 20th of July, and proceeded to Fort Pierre, 1,500 miles above St. Louis, the central and principal trading-house of Pierre Chouteau, jr. & Co., commonly called the American Fur Company. Here I met a large number of lodges of the Tetowans and the Bruellas bands of Sioux.

After giving a feast to the chiefs and braves, of coffee and pilot bread, I distributed powder, lead, tobacco, knives, &c., among them. I was, in return, invited to their council lodge to hold a talk, and to partake of a dog feast, their favorite dish. Having no prejudices upon this subject, I cheerfully united in the feast. After many speeches and a full explanation of all the subjects previously adverted to, the council terminated.

The next morning we set out for Fort Union, near the mouth of the Yellow Stone, about 700 miles above this point. From hence, as we ascended, the banks of the river exhibited strong traces of iron and stone coal. After journeying about three hundred miles we reached Fort Clarke, contiguous to which reside the entire Arickaree nation. They had been recently visited by the measles; and, in consequence of their ignorance of the disease, and its appropriate remedies, it destroyed a large number of them.

Attributing this scourge to the whites, they were said to be much exasperated; accordingly, every proper precaution was adopted to prevent a surprise, as they are known to be peculiarly treacherous. They, however, met us with great apparent cordiality. We held a long talk with them, in which they made many apologies for their threats, and for the ignorance of their young men in attributing their affliction to their white brethren. I distributed the usual presents and took leave, promising to call on my return. These Indians live in a perpetual state of war with the Sioux and other tribes. In consequence of their inferiority in number, they are compelled to live in two fortified towns. They are proverbially treacherous and thievish. It was this band that committed the outrage upon the late General Ashley and his party, and against whom Colonel Leavenworth was sent. That officer, doubtless, in obedience to his orders, attempted rather to overawe them than to punish them, and to this day the Arickarees and the Sioux, the allies of our army on that occasion, ridicule the expedition; as an Indian, in his unreformed state, can only comprehend the law of strict retaliation, and always construes forbearance into fear, although our government and its troops were undoubtedly influenced by the purest philanthropy.

These Indians, in common with all the other tribes, manifest great mechanical ingenuity. They grow large crops of corn, potatoes, &c. &c., which they sell to the whites, who in turn sell it to the Sioux. From their concentrated condition, a suitable manual labor school and a sincere and efficient missionary might reclaim these people from destruction.

The next village is the Mandans. This noble race of Indians has been nearly annihilated by the small pox. Although neighbors to the Arickarees, they are free from all their vices. I had a very satisfactory interview with them, and, making them presents, left for Fort Berthold, situated at the Gros-Ventre village, who are concentrated in a town protected by pickets, and maintain perpetual war with the Sioux. This tribe is remarkable for their attachment to the whites, and their fidelity to their engagements; yet, from the vast superiority of the Sioux in number, this tribe, as well as the Arickarees, must at no distant day be extinguished, unless the gov-

ernment interfere in such a manner as to put an end to these unnecessary wars. After a long talk with the chiefs and braves, and a distribution of presents, Four Bears, their most distinguished chief, came forward with a human scalp fastened to a pole, (the scalp of Bonaventura Lebrun,) and presenting it, addressed me as follows: "My father, we have often been told that you pale faces below are as numerous as the grass in the prairie; we find it hard to make our young warriors, who have never seen your great cities on the big salt lake, believe this. Look here! (holding up the scalp,) a Sioux did this deed, and they have perpetrated many such outrages. If you are so numerous and powerful, why is this tolerated? Surely this man has some friends and relations below. He did not spring spontaneously from the ground, like a tree. If not, why is he not revenged? They are killing your men to-day, and stealing your horses to-morrow, and yet no step is taken to punish a Sioux. If you are so powerful, something must be wrong. We are afraid our great father here (the agent) does not tell these things to our Great Grandfather on the border of the big salt lake, or he would send his soldiers here to prevent or punish such conduct. When you go down you must not hide it from him, nor speak to him with a forked tongue. Surely, then, our Great Grandfather will awake, and put an end to these scenes." I repeat this at Four Bears' earnest request. This is one of the fruits of these wars. Eight white men have fallen victims to it within the past year.

If a white man takes up his residence with one tribe, whether a renegade from society, or a licensed trader in the regular pursuit of his business, he is identified with the tribe with which he may live, and his property stolen or his life taken as readily by a hostile tribe as if he constituted one of the nation.

In my reply to Four Bears, among other matters, I intimated a wish and expressed a hope that the government would adopt prompt and efficient measures to terminate these wars, by stationing a few troops near them, and urged them to set the example of forbearance.

On my return, I ascertained that when I was passing up they were preparing for a war expedition, and that in consequence of my representations they had deferred it until *next spring, to learn what their Great Grandfather intended to do in reference to this subject.* Their local position, also, invites a school and other measures in aid of the cause of civilization and Christianity.

We reached Fort Union on the 4th of July, situated three miles above the mouth of the Yellow Stone: the weather cold enough to require a fire. This is the country of the Assinaboines, and they ordinarily trade at this point; but, since our government has very properly prohibited the introduction of liquor, they have been induced to trade with the British, who procure their liquor from the Selkirk settlement, from Fort Hall, on the Columbia. They were deaf to my remonstrances, and announced their fixed determination to trade where liquor could be had, regardless of distance, expense, or inconvenience.

Thus it is we have been cut off from this valuable trade, without the slightest amelioration of the condition of the Indian, and this unhappy state of things must continue unless the recent Oregon treaty (of the terms of which I am wholly ignorant) has provided a remedy, or an adequate force is employed to arrest this trade. To these Indians I also made small presents.

Above this the next fort and trading house is Fort Alexander, about 400 miles above this point on the Yellow Stone, at which the Crow and Snake Indians trade. These are comparatively moral and sober tribes—always regarding the life of a white man as sacred. They are, however, warlike and brave.

The Chouteau Company have also another trading house, Fort Lewis, about six hundred and fifty miles above this, on the Missouri, where the Blackfeet, Gros-Ventres of the prairies, Blood Indians, Pedgans, and Catawahays trade. There is also another trading company on Bear river, of Messrs. Bridge and Vasques, who trade with the same Indians.

These Indians are represented as faithless, vindictive, and merciless. It is, however, said to have had its origin in some cruel and base acts of white men in their country. Certain it is, that several outrages have been perpetrated both by Indians and whites in this remote quarter of the country, that ought to have been investigated and punished long since. I need hardly say I shall do my utmost to prevent the recurrence of such affairs, and to cause the authors to be punished should they recur.

I returned to Fort Pierre on the 19th July, and immediately set out, according to promise, for Fort Lookout, 90 miles below this, it being the headquarters of the Yancton and Santie bands of Sioux. I soon arrived among them, and remained three days; but, as all the principal men were out hunting, and would not return before the 20th of August, I returned to Fort Pierre, having experienced a taste of prairie travelling under a scorching sun, and being compelled to travel the first day about forty-five miles before we obtained water for ourselves or horses.

Whilst making preparations to visit the Platte, an express reached this apprizing the Chouteau Company that an opposition trading company had been organized in Saint Louis, under the name of the "St. Louis Fur Company," and that a boat containing their outfit would soon ascend the river.

The agent of the first named company addressed me a formal request to search this boat, stating that he had been informed that a large supply of liquor for the Indians was on board. I accordingly awaited their arrival; and, when they did arrive, made a thorough search in the presence of the agent desiring it, without discovering any liquor. I also examined their invoices, and swore their clerk to their accuracy. After examining their license, they departed for the Yellow Stone.

They have established their principal post for the Sioux at the mouth of Medicine creek, forty-five miles below Fort Pierre. The rivalry between these companies is very bitter, and the jealousy intense. I hope this may at least result in benefit to the Indians, if to no one else.

An arrival from the Platte apprizes me that all the chiefs and braves of the Ogalalla Sioux have gone on a war party against the Crows, and hence would render a visit to them at present useless.

The Indians of the Platte complain bitterly of the passage of the Oregon emigrants through their country; and also of the wanton destruction of game, the firing of the prarie, and other injuries. They say they should be compensated for the right of way, and the emigrants restricted by law, or the presence of a military force, from the unnecessary destruction of game. There is doubtless some foundation for these complaints; but it is no less true that the poor emigrant is frequently severely taxed in the shape of beggars; that they dare not refuse, under penalty of being robbed of their

stock. Much of this dissatisfaction is produced by renegade white men, who live with the Indians, and who have thrown off the restraints of civilization, and are, in every sense, much worse than the native Indian.

It is every way desirable that at least the vicious portion of this population should be expelled from the country.

Adjoining this branch of the Sioux live the Arapahoes and the Cheyenne Indians, residing between the Arkansas and the north fork of the Platte. These Indians have been plundered and demoralized by a band of unlicensed traders, procuring their liquor from Taos, in New Mexico. Some of these traders are Mexicans, and some citizens of the United States.

It is to be hoped that the troops to be stationed in that quarter, united with the exertions of the agent, may be enabled to break up this destructive traffic.

It seems to me that the number of Indians embraced in the upper Missouri agency, the extent of the country owned and occupied by them, their relative position, and the character of the different tribes, or the value of the trade with them, have been very imperfectly understood. The Sioux alone are believed to have upwards of 5,000 lodges, averaging over ten souls to each lodge. A glance at the map will disclose the extent of the country. Their ceaseless wars, and fierce and treacherous character, have been already adverted to.

The company of Choteau & Co., alone, have in the country goods to the amount of $120,000—original cost. The Saint Louis company twenty to $30,000, besides the companies of Bridges & Vasques, on Bear river, and others on the Platte. The expenses of these traders are very heavy, and consequently the prices of their goods must correspond. Sugar and coffee, formerly one dollar per pound, now 75 cents; ten cent calico, one dollar per yard; and even large quantities of corn have been brought from Saint Louis and sold at 75 cents per gallon, and often higher.

You will readily perceive that I consider it necessary to make a radical change in this agency. As at present organized, the agent is charged with the duty of resisting and punishing infractions of the intercourse law, whether committed by a large and powerful trading company, or a band of lawless unlicensed traders. The first have the power, from their extensive intercourse with the Indians, and the number of their employees, to counteract every movement adverse to their schemes, and to render his stay in the country impossible by denying him shelter or aid of any kind; while the second travel in small armed bands, prepared to resist the execution of the law by a single agent and his interpreter.

To achieve the benevolent objects of the government, a few troops would be required, under the command of a firm and intelligent officer, at or near the Yellow Stone; a similar number at or near Fort Pierre, and on the Platte. A single company of the mounted regiment at each of the first named points would be quite sufficient. At both points, horses are kept fat all the year without corn or salt: a single man guards 100 horses. In August, as much prairie hay is cut and cured as subsists them through the winter. The soil is strongly impregnated with salt and alum, and the country perfectly healthy.

Either an agent at the Yellow Stone, and another on the Platte, or an appropriation to pay for the services of men to be employed in this service,

under the direction of the agent, is indispensable to the accomplishment of the objects of the government.

Nothing can be more apparent, that no one man can perform the duties of this agency *as it should be done*. If it requires an agent for so many of the small concentrated and semi-civilized tribes, less than the number indicated would be inadequate. This change, with cheap agency houses, rendering them completely independent of the different trading companies, and the institution of manual labor schools, would go far to preserve, reform, and elevate these neglected children of the forest. Schools I regard as of primary importance; no rational expectation can be entertained of success in the propagation of Christianity, until a foundation has been first laid by a more general diffusion of knowledge. This accomplished, and the spread of the Christian religion will be an easy task. If a small portion of the large sums now lavished in India, and in other foreign nations, was devoted to these neglected people, incalculable good might be done. Let their zeal for the propagation of the good cause begin at home, and exert itself in lifting from almost brute degradation the original owners of the soil of our great, free, and prosperous country. You have recommended that the funds for education and for agricultural purposes be placed in the hands of the American board of missions, under such conditions and restrictions as might be agreed upon by the Department and the board.

This suggestion is a very good one, if the character of teacher and missionary can always be united. The missionary and teacher should invariably be a married man; Christianity is the only religion that places woman upon an equality with man. The Indian woman must be raised from the abject condition of being mere "hewers of wood and drawers of water," to a level with their Indian lords and masters. They must be impressed with the sinfulness of polygamy; and a female teacher is indispensable in the accomplishment of these objects, while a male teacher could impart such instruction as his sex need—the mechanic arts, cultivation of the soil, the folly and sinfulness of wars, horse stealing, drunkenness, &c.

As an illustration of an Indian education, a few days since a party of braves who had returned from an unsuccessful buffalo hunt came to beg some ammunition. A very old man strongly recommended his son to me, because he had individually stolen twenty horses from the Pawnees. In these achievements he had displayed skill, cunning, and bravery, qualities highly cherished by the Indians.

On the 21st of August, I was notified by the Yanctons that they desired my presence at Fort Lookout, at the distribution of their goods. On the 23d I reached that place, and found an encampment of 400 lodges of the Yanctons, besides a host of stragglers from nearly all the bands. The goods received by them on the 19th of June remained untouched. Some bad white men had excited them greatly, by representing that a part of their goods had been taken by the American Fur Company. I assembled the chiefs and braves, and employed a special interpreter selected by themselves, and laboriously explained the price of every article when delivered to them, and compared it with the prices they had been accustomed to pay, and succeeded in satisfying them that every thing had been conducted fairly. This over, at the various feasts they renewed the discussion of all the topics partially discussed at a previous interview: their want of a school, and a practical farmer and blacksmith; regretted their rejection of agricultural instruments on a former occasion; said they had hired the traders

to plough and plant a large quantity of ground in corn; that their ignorance of the fact that the corn required to be ploughed more than once, and *also hoed by the squaws,* together with the dry season, had made their crop prove almost a failure. They urged these and kindred subjects with great earnestness. Of course I could do nothing more than promise to represent their wishes to the government, and to express my opinion in favor of their views. They renewed their complaints against the citizens residing on the St. Peter's, Des Moines, &c., furnishing their young men with liquor, and cheating them out of their guns, horses, and buffalo robes; and expressed the opinion that the recent purchase of the Pottawatomie lands by the government would greatly increase this evil, by bringing lawless border settlers into immediate contact with their people. After hearing all their grievances and wants, I left them. The evil apprehended might be, to a great extent, obviated, by a removal (after the termination of the war with Mexico) of the dragoons from Fort Leavenworth, where they are not, in my judgment, required, to Vermillion. If higher up the river, the dragoons could be usefully employed and cheaply subsisted; and the position at present occupied by them is every way admirably adapted to infantry or artillery. Since the first institution of this agency the game has greatly diminished, and will continue to diminish; and the Indians, conscious of this fact, are beginning to cast off their nomadic character, and exhibit a strong disposition to turn their attention to growing corn, &c.; and if the government mean to render their parental care of them efficient and practically useful, it appears to me they should encourage and aid them in their efforts. The amount allowed to these Indian tribes for presents is a mockery, and only calculated to embarrass the agent. This will be made more apparent by recurring to the number of Indians, and the fact that these articles are obliged to be purchased in the country at the prices fixed by the traders, as the agent has no place of deposite for the goods, and no means of transportation for them if he had; no other boats but those belonging to the trading companies ascend the river as high as necessary, and they carry only for their owners.

On the 31st of August I left for Vermillion, 400 miles below Fort Pierre, at the mouth of l'Eau-qui-court, the dividing line between the Sioux and Poncas. On that side of the Missouri I found an encampment of 200 Mormons, and perhaps a similar number of Poncas. The Mormons were building houses to winter there, intending to proceed in the spring to California. The Indians received them with pleasure, regarding them as a protection against the Sioux. I also learned that a war party of the Sioux had only a week previous surprised a party of the Poncas, and killed one and wounded another. I had a very full conversation with President Miller, the leader of the Mormons, and regard him as a very intellectual man. He declared that the bad treatment of a few had not weakened their devoted attachment to our free institutions. Most of his followers are originally from New England. As soon as I reached Vermillion, I ascertained that the disorders represented to prevail there had been greatly exaggerated. One Indian had been killed, the result of whiskey procured from the St. Peter's settlement. I conversed and held a talk with, and distributed presents among them. One of their most intelligent, and at the same time troublesome chiefs, brought up the treaty of 1830, and presented his view of the provisions of it, obviously for the purpose of spreading dissatisfaction, and increasing his own consequence. Not having been furnished

with the treaty, I could only assure him and them that I would procure it, and that the government would do them justice.

In giving the Yanctons a feast, in reciprocation of the dog feast, I presented them salt, and they used it freely. As the salt lake is not very distant, and calculated to furnish salt for the whole nation of Sioux, I inquired why they did not procure it. They answered that the Yanctonies claimed the exclusive use of it. I told them that it certainly belonged to the nation. They said they held the right of the several bands into which the nation was divided sacred. Each band claims the exclusive use of certain portions of their common territory, as each State with us claims exclusive jurisdiction of the soil of their own State. That they were divided into the Tetonsarans, Yanctons, Yanctonies, Ogalallas, Two Rille band, Brucellares, &c. This entire country seems to be peculiarly adapted to horses and cattle; to the former of which, and to his dog, the Indian is much devoted, using the horse in his wars and in the pursuit of buffalo, and the dog to haul his wood, and, when driven to it or as a rare luxury, as food. The wild animals of the country consist of buffalo, elk, antelope, deer, (common and black tail,) grisly bear, big horn sheep, innumerable wolves, prairie dog, badger, &c.; and the fruit of superior red and yellow plums, wild cherries, gooseberries, service berries, buffalo berries. A kind Providence has supplied many plants adapted to the few diseases prevalent here. But three of these have attracted my particular attention; in French, (most spoken here, after Indian,) pinette de prairie, or, in English, balsam or weed, an excellent remedy for dyspepsia or diseases of the kidneys; blackroot, an infallible cure for the bite of the rattlesnake; and sarsaparilla.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

T. P. MOORE,
Indian Agent, Upper Missouri.

To Major Thomas H. Harvey,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

P. S.—Since the foregoing was prepared, I am apprized of the appointment of Captain Thomas Fitzpatrick to one of the agencies recommended by me. A better selection could not have been made. T. P. M.

No. 17.

Agency for Sacs and Foxes,
Osage River, September 1, 1846.

Sir: Within the year which has elapsed since the corresponding date at which my last annual report of the affairs of my charge was rendered, a vast change has taken place with reference to many of the most important circumstances of their condition. This change, connected as it so intimately is with much that is of paramount concern to themselves, cannot fail to offer subjects for observation, as regards their future, of the deepest interest to those whose taste or feelings may lead them to be thus observant; while such as are led, from official position, as well as those who, from other situations, and from peculiar motives of conduct, are similarly led, to consider an imperative sense of duty as involving and now demanding, if possible, more than heretofore, its own vigorous, vigilant, and unwearying

exercise, must, if true to their duties and convictions, as also to a sentiment of humanity, not only observe with a still more intense solicitude, but be also continually prepared to exert such influence and apply such action as their observation may properly indicate. Nor will watchfulness and readiness be alone sufficient, for unless to these shall be joined a fixed determination, they will prove but of little avail. Therefore, a resolution is no less essential to fulfil towards these people, so deserving of our deep regard, every duty, alike indifferent to unfounded prejudice or dissatisfaction, to clamor or to threatenings, from whatever source they may spring; and the official who prescribes to himself and attempts to practise this course can expect no easy task, thrust into collision, as he often is, with such ever-varying and discordant interests around him—forced now to conciliate, again to control, and not unfrequently to combat them.

Our legislature and our administrative government, with those who serve it, bear a relation of most responsible importance to our red neighbors, and to none of them at the present time, as I think, more than to the tribes with whose charge I am vested. The one must appropriate and the other apply the annual stipends which treaties require, and too many there are who, if this were promptly effected, would gladly relieve us from the exercise of any other sense or duty of responsibility, unless it were to relax a little from the stringency of our already feeble and inadequate enactments. But while selfishness, with its many and ever-accompanying attributes, would thus easily desire contentment, the eye of humanity ranges over a wider vision. Contemplating a more extended prospect, it sees that although much to rejoice over has been already effected, much to increase the beauties of the scene yet can and should be done. And the heart of humanity, thankful to that legislature by which, at different periods, so much has been accomplished, lives upon the hope that the growing necessity, becoming day by day more palpable, aided by a heart-born importunity, respectfully repeated, will ere long induce it to accomplish more.

As I said at the commencement, the Sacs and Foxes have been subjected to a great change: to this change, with greater or less readiness, they must now accommodate themselves; and besides that during the process of such accommodation our feelings and sympathies would most naturally be called into action, it does not appear that a more fitting period could offer in which, if rightly directed, they could prove more eminently useful. Hitherto, and for so long a term of years that even their own history is based at best upon an uncertain tradition, they have owned and occupied the region whose last remaining portion they have finally yielded up; and, deserting forever the hunting grounds of their ancestors, leaving behind them their early neighbors and early friendships as well as enmities, they are transferred to a strange climate, and to a land the home, even within the recollection of the present race, of their deadliest foes, there to seek new friendships and alliances, and perhaps entail upon their posterity new enmities. Reared upon prairies once rich in game, even its rapid disappearance in recent years would not constitute a necessity sufficient to overcome their fondness for a life endeared by habit and early partiality. But now brought to a country comparatively without game, aware of their situation, their thoughts seem to be settling upon some other plan of subsistence. It is these and similar considerations which lead me to view their change as bringing up subjects of interest, not to themselves alone, but

likewise to those whose aim is to advance the causes of civilization, of moral and religious culture.

Again, these people have come out from a country endeared by tenderest recollections: their cradle, the home of their youth, the sepulchre of their ancestors, and of many dearest friends; thus left to the uncertain guardianship of strangers, to be too often sacrilegiously betrayed. We are prone to attribute to the red man a stolid indifference to such subjects; but I know with what reason, or rather with what want of it. We understand the influence of such sentiments upon more cultivated natures; and may it not be that upon those confined to a more limited range of thought, and strangers to many of the reflections that bring comfort to us, these feelings may be more keenly impressed? Not only have they thus removed, but with a promptitude and a fidelity, if not without a parallel certainly not surpassed, and most fully corroborating the high character which I have been ever proud to give them. Adhering with an unabated pertinacity to their primitive wildness, studious of no change, their nature has stamped upon it many of the noblest traits: a fidelity, a regard to truth, a sense of honesty and honor, a pride of person and nation, which even, when compared with their more civilized Indian neighbors, gives them in the eye of the multitude the higher ground. Is not here a field and call for action upon the legislative power to step to their rescue? upon the Christian to look upon the ready whitened harvest? upon each to render to the other that co-operation without which the unaided labors of either might prove ineffective?

Does the public officer propose to the Indian any measure tending to his benefit, unless it may happen to accord with his various interests that are clashing against each other and himself? (and this among so many could be only by chance:) these, by the inciting of feigned suspicions, by imparting false motives, by pandering to debasing lust and vitiated appetites, and by many other iniquitous means, are ever ready (and too often successful) to gain the advantage. The low, vicious, and profligate half-breeds and other characters, usually dependent for their precarious living upon those they serve, become willing instruments; to-day serving this interest—to-morrow bought over by an additional dollar to its opposing one; acquiring from their association among the Indians much influence over them by thus holding up their *true friend* as an object of jealousy, rendering them the easy dupes of the hard-hearted speculator. Thus, when it is proposed to employ a physician, to erect a little hospital in which the sick can be cared for and his life prolonged, or to send some of their youths to a distant school, opposers soon start up, with whom the question appears to be, will not this take a few dollars from their means? And the officer who persists in pursuing his convictions of duty must often find unpleasant collisions forced upon him; perplexity in performing his duties, of which advantage will be endeavored to his discredit; clamors and attempts to impair the confidence which may be entertained by those to whom he is responsible. But while I speak thus, I should do wrong not to say there are those interested among the Sacs and Foxes from whom I have always experienced the most cordial assistance in fulfilling my duties and in promoting benevolent designs. Still, "these things ought not to be."

With the exception of about one hundred, in which number were many of the sick and infirm, the Sacs and Foxes passed out of their former country within the period prescribed by treaty. They, however, did not

all continue their emigrating march with equal perseverance. Different influences—some extraneous and improper, others originating among themselves, and less avoidable—created delays, whereby a portion of the tribes have not even yet arrived at their new home. By the commencement of the current year the entire tribe of Sacs, with about one fifth of the Foxes, had concentrated upon the Kanzas river, there awaiting the arrival of the remainder, in order to a joint examination of the two tracts which the Indian Department had offered them, from which to select one to become their future home. The consent of the Indians upon whose land they had halted had been obtained for their temporary stay. But the other portion of the Foxes, with their principal chief among them, not appearing up to so late a period that planting of corn could be no longer deferred, the bands which had crossed the Missouri, forming as they did a large majority of the united nation, and including among them all who had thus far manifested a continued compliance with their obligations, believed longer delay unjustifiable. They proceeded to a selection, by which the tract lying upon the head of the Osage river became their home. A large number of these Indians immediately commenced their settlement upon this tract, while the remainder, having already undertaken farming operations upon the land where they had wintered, deemed it most advisable to remain until after the maturing of their crop, with the intention of then joining their brethren. The distance is thirty miles, and my greatest assurance of a prompt fulfilment of their expressed intention rests in the fact that these form the bands under the immediate influence and control of Keokuk.

By the treaty of 1842 the Sacs and Foxes ceded all the lands then remaining to them in Iowa, agreeing to remove therefrom by the 11th October, 1845. During the interval, the United States were to select a home for them upon the Missouri, or some of its waters. This was done, and before the last day of September, 1845, the Sacs had departed from Iowa. On the 8th October the Foxes began their march, so by the 11th of that month the entire nation, except about a hundred before spoken of, had actually left their former home. At some time previous to date of starting, it had been determined in council that, owing to their abundant supply of horses and plentiful crop, they would need no assistance in removing. Those parties which availed themselves of the arrangements made by Keokuk, with the concurrence of the undersigned, completed their journey by direct routes at an early day, without inconvenience or suffering; while a portion, whom sinister influences led to reject our arrangements, selecting circuitous routes and delaying upon their march, were subjected to some embarrassment. The band of Foxes which is yet behind, in passing through the country of the Pottawatomies, was induced to make a halt there. I am told they were invited to stop by the chiefs of that people. They are ancient friends and allies, and speak a language almost identical. An unfortunate jealousy against the Sacs has prevailed among these Foxes for many years; and possibly the persuasions of the interested, combined with other considerations, have been more or less effective in causing this halt. But it is to be presumed that the entire people will be congregated here by the period for the annuity payment of the present year.

The tract of land which, by treaty, and by successive acts of the government and Indians in accordance therewith, has now become the home of the latter, lies in contact upon two of its sides with lands of partially civilized Indians, the Shawnees and Chippewas. It is pleasantly situated,

moderately well timbered, the timber being of excellent quality. Its varieties of surface and scenery are agreeably diverse. Spring water is scarce, while that of the streams is deemed fatal to health, and a rocky substratum renders it difficult to procure wells. The climate appears pleasant. We had heard no other than a very sickly character ascribed to it; but thus far at least, notwithstanding a long duration of excessive heat, our exposed situation, and unacclimated habits, our apprehensions have proved entirely unfounded. A growing acquaintance with the country has served to change my original impressions concerning it, and my opinion is becoming daily confirmed that it at least ought to satisfy the Indians. It is of essential importance that the Chippewa boundary line be established and marked out without delay. We are about 65 miles distant, by the road at present used, from Westport, Jackson county, Mo., to which place letters should be addressed.

Thus far I have received no instructions in regard to such agency buildings, smith shops, &c., as are contemplated. The smiths have erected a temporary forge, where they can perform such mending and other work as is within their means; but these are limited, because until I have some place for the security and protection of the iron and steel, for the due preservation and safekeeping of which I should be accountable, I am unwilling to incur the risk of bringing it out.

In September of last year, there were 2,278 Indians of the Sacs and Foxes.

Herewith please find the several papers annually required of me.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN BEACH,
United States Indian Agent.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

No. 18.

COUNCIL BLUFFS SUB-AGENCY,
September 11, 1846.

SIR: The time having arrived at which it is made my duty to lay before you an annual report of the condition of the Indians of this sub-agency, I have the honor of submitting the following:

There has been no material change in the condition or habits of the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, of this sub-agency, for the past year—health excepted. The largest portion of this nation are located on or near the Missouri river; they have suffered much with diseases of different character—some of the most malignant; the number of deaths is estimated at one-tenth part of the population. I cannot too strongly impress upon you the necessity of furnishing this nation with a physician as soon as convenient.

Their agricultural pursuits are not as good as last year, owing to the wet, backward spring; however, they will raise a tolerable crop of corn, potatoes, pumpkins, and beans. The unsettled condition of this nation for some years has prevented their making the improvements necessary for convenience and comfort.

This nation has no school nor religious denomination among them; both of which I hope will be furnished at the earliest convenience.

The nation has two blacksmiths, who have been constantly engaged during the spring in making and repairing agricultural implements, and the remainder of the season in making and repairing guns, traps, axes, knives, fire-steels, &c. They are constantly engaged, and contribute largely, but cannot supply all their wants.

Some efficient step should be taken, if possible, to prevent the frequent use, and ease of obtaining and introducing whiskey to this nation. The article is kept in great abundance near the State line, where the squaws and young men exchange horses, guns, blankets, and other articles that they can get on credit from the traders, for whiskey. If the State would enact a law imposing a heavy fine on any white person who should be found in possession of any property known to have belonged to an Indian, and enforce it by imprisonment in jail or penitentiary, it would to a great extent stop the use of this pernicious article. A fine without a penalty is of but little use.

I am of opinion that it would be to the interest of the nation to have the number of traders reduced, and require those that remained to furnish goods at a given and reasonable per centage; and, further, require them not to extend their credits beyond one-half of the amount annually received.

It is a general opinion that competition will regulate trade. It is not so here. When the Indian is hungry and naked, and an opportunity offers to buy whiskey with goods, he will buy at any price demanded. There is no doubt, at first sight, some will say that to carry out my views in this matter it would create a monopoly by legislative action: if so, the same objection would apply to the appointment of sutler for the convenience of soldiers at any of the military posts.

I am of opinion that a few white men of industrious habits and good morals would be advantageous to this nation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. MITCHELL,
Indian Sub-agent.

THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 19.

WYANDOT INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
October 9, 1846.

SIR: Nothing remarkable has transpired at this sub-agency since my last report. The people of the Wyandot nation are generally in the full enjoyment of good health; they have been visited by no prevailing disease during the past unusually hot summer.

They are making commendable advancement in agricultural pursuits, as you will discover from the accompanying statement of the "Census and Statistical Report" of the Wyandot nation. Their new home begins to exhibit the advanced civilization and improvement of this people. With a soil unsurpassed in fertility, contiguous to an improving and well-settled portion of the State of Missouri, and with ample advantages for transport-

ing their surplus produce to market, their country will soon rival that of their white neighbors.

The majority of the Wyandots have already erected permanent and comfortable houses, and have made and are making such other improvements as their time and means would permit. They have been much embarrassed, and their improvements much retarded, for the want of their improvement money due from their Ohio lands. That difficulty is now removed, and they are rejoicing that the justice of the United States government enables them to relieve themselves from a heavy indebtedness, incurred on the faith of that fund: at the same time that it places them in a condition to improve their habitations and enlarge their agricultural operations, we may hope that hereafter there will be no serious obstacle in the way of their steady advancement in the arts and comforts of civilization.

But while I am gratified in being able to speak highly of the improvement of the Wyandots in other particulars, candor compels me to say that many of them are the degraded victims of intemperance; they have not escaped the too common fate of the Indian, in his intercourse with the designing white man, and, with the means in their power, spend their time in riotous dissipation.

These are the only exceptions to the general good character and prosperity of this people, and the degradation of this class is the more apparent when contrasted with the fine deportment of the others.

They have among them men of intelligence and highly cultivated minds, who would do no discredit to any enlightened society. They have many (and I am happy to say a majority) who are orderly, temperate, and industrious, many of whom are exemplary members of the church.

They have, also, an organized and well-encouraged temperance society among them, in which strenuous and zealous efforts are made to reclaim that portion of the people who have fallen to the lowest depths of degradation, with the aid of the white man. It is too well known, however, that no moral influences are sufficient to restrain the appetite of the Indian for whiskey; at the same time, none but the most stringent and well enforced laws can curb the cupidity of that class of white men who are engaged in this disgraceful traffic. A great difficulty exists in the enforcement of the existing laws, in the punishment of offences committed within the limits of Missouri. The fact that the testimony of the Indian is not received in such cases, in connexion with the extreme technicality of criminal practice, renders conviction nearly impossible. We are compelled to witness the daily effects of the brutalizing practices of white men in our vicinity, while we are powerless to inflict punishment, the craft of the whisky trader easily [evading] the only kind of proof we are allowed to use in court. This unwise restriction upon the use of Indian testimony, in cases of this description, should, in my humble opinion, be removed. I should then entertain a hope of greatly diminishing the traffic in ardent spirits with the Indians, and more especially if to this could be added imprisonment; for but few men engage in this low grade of business who are able to pay a fine when assessed. In almost all cases, they are as destitute of permanent means as they must necessarily be of moral honesty. Consequently, the Missouri statute has no terror for them. I am proud in being able to bear testimony that all the most virtuous citizens of the State of Missouri (and they are not a few) show these disturbers of the peace no countenance whatever.

It would be well worthy the consideration of the Department to devise

some means by which this difficulty can be removed; this once effected, and you have done more to raise the standard of Indian character, and to perpetuate the race of the red man, than has or can be done by all the means made use of for years past or to come.

And permit me here to suggest that some person, familiar with the necessities of the case, be authorized by the Department to bring this subject before the legislature of Missouri at its next session, and urge the adoption of such measures by the State government as would be effectual in removing this difficulty. I have the confidence to believe that much good would result from such a course.

The Wyandots were called together by me, after my arrival here with their annual annuity, and decided, by a general vote, that the annuity for the current year should be paid to heads of families and individuals by their agent in person. I accordingly proceeded to make the payment, and have just concluded it.

Owing to the great amount due the Delawares for lands, $10,000, and the other debts of the nation being considerable, the *pro rata* amounted to but $16 50; formerly they have divided $20 *per capita*.

I am gratified, however, in being able to inform you that the people seem well satisfied with the amount they received, and seem rather to rejoice that their lands are being paid for, as they had contracted.

The only remaining uneasiness with the Wyandots is, that the contract which they entered into with the Delawares, in relation to their purchase of lands of the latter, has not yet been ratified by the government. Although they do not attach blame upon the government for this delay, it nevertheless is to be regretted that delay was found necessary. Both Wyandots and Delawares are now anxious for the adoption of what is termed a "tri-party treaty," for the final settlement of this important question, important to both nations; especially important to the Wyandots, as they feel timid about making permanent improvements until their title is made good to them. To some it answers as an apology for their doing little or no work whatever. It is again important to the Wyandots that this question of title should be settled, that they may use the large amounts of money which many of them have in making improvements for themselves, before it is eked out elsewhere and for less important purposes.

The church established in this nation by the Methodist Episcopal Society is now under the care of Rev. James Peery, a worthy missionary of that connexion. The church is in a flourishing condition, and has many exemplary members among the people of the nation; their meetings are well attended, and are marked by great propriety of deportment. Truth compels me to say that I have never witnessed better order in church, nor more devoted worshippers, than are to be found in a Wyandot meeting.

There is a fund arising from the valuation of the "Mission Farm," on the Wyandot reservation in Ohio, which the Wyandots are very desirous should be retained in the nation and expended in the erection of a suitable house for worship. I fully concur with people in that the remaining balance of said fund should not be withdrawn from the nation. A large proportion of this fund has already been paid to the Missionary Society, and even-handed justice would seem to aid us in the above opinion. It is to be hoped that the Department will take such steps in regard to this matter as will meet the wishes of the people.

The schools established (two) in this nation, under the direction of the

council, are in a flourishing condition, and promise much for the future. The late appropriation of their annual "education fund" came in good time, and I have no doubt but it will be properly applied by the chiefs, to whom I have paid the amount due for two years past, $1,000.

The Wyandots number about 565 souls who reside here; there are some others scattered in various places, the number or condition of whom I have no means of knowing.

We have an abundant crop of corn, beans, potatoes, and other vegetables, more than sufficient for the use of the people.

My statistical report and census will contain much information, which otherwise would have been embodied in this report.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD HEWITT,
Indian Sub-agent.

Hon. Thos. H. Harvey,
Supt. Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

No. 20.

Great Nemaha Sub-agency, *September* 25, 1846.

Sir: I entered on the duties of the office of sub-agent on the 11th ultimo. I found the condition of the Sacs and Foxes much better than I had anticipated; their moral and intellectual character is much superior to what I had been led to expect, and I was well pleased to find them anxious to turn their attention more to the cultivation of the soil. They have already expressed a strong desire to have more ground broke and fenced. Their present year's crop of corn, pumpkins, beans, potatoes, &c., is abundant, though much of it has been raised in patches, protected only by a light temporary fence, of their own construction. They are particularly anxious to have a mill erected, which would be of incalculable advantage, not only for the grinding of their own grain, but in preventing their frequent visits across the river—the keeping them farther from temptations, which they have hardly the power if they have the inclination to resist.

I regret I cannot speak as favorably of the condition of the Iowas, although they have raised an abundant supply of corn, beans, &c., the present season; but their proximity to the whites seems very unfavorable to their moral improvement, since, by that means, abundant facilities are afforded for gratifying their thirst for whiskey; for which they often sacrifice their most necessary comforts, even giving a horse at times for a gallon or two of whiskey.

It is a great misfortune that our frontier is infested with so many desperadoes, who are alike regardless of the laws of God and those heretofore framed by man.

For a more particular account of farming transactions, I refer you to the reports of J. W. Forman, Sac and Fox farmer, and F. C. McCreary, Iowa farmer, herewith transmitted.

I beg leave to refer you to the report of the Rev. S. M. Irvin, for infor-

mation respecting the progress of the manual labor boarding school under his charge.

Respectfully, &c.,

W. E. RUCKER,
Indian Sub-agent.

To THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
St. Louis, Mo.

No. 21.

OSAGE RIVER SUB-AGENCY, *September* 4, 1846.

SIR: In obedience to the regulations required by the Indian Department, I have now the honor to lay before you my annual report of the affairs of this sub-agency, and of the condition of the several tribes of Indians located therein.

In my report of last year, dated 20th September, 1845, I intimated my inability to give you a correct statement of the number of individuals comprising the various bands inhabiting this sub-agency. By a reference to the pay rolls of last year, I now state their number as follows, viz:

Pottawatomies of the Prairie	496
Do of the Wabash	735
Do of the Saint Joseph	710
Pottawatomies, total	1,941
Ottowas	284
Chippewas	27
Piankeshaws	101
Weas	147
Peorias and Kaskaskias, estimated at	130
Total	2,630 souls.

The foregoing is an exhibit of the Indian population of this sub-agency, as it appeared in the pay rolls of the annuity for last year, (1845;) but the number stated is not truly exact. It is a custom with the Indians here, particularly the Pottawatomies, to include the names of those persons who have died the year previous in the annuity pay rolls, so the relatives of such deceased person can have the benefit of his annuity for the year past. The number customarily included in the pay rolls necessarily increases the population apparently; and without taking the course of a regular census, we can never arrive at the correct number of any tribe at any given period. The number above stated is as correct as can be obtained; and no material difference exists between the numbers now and last year. During the last season disease has made less havoc among these people than in 1845, and, as they are a prolific race, it may be presumed that the population at this time will show an increase on last year's enumeration. The number of the Peorias and Kaskaskias is estimated and believed to be nearly correct. Their annuities having a few years ago expired, by limitation, no data can be obtained from pay rolls.

It is gratifying to state that sickness has been much less prevalent than

last year. Individual and fatal cases have, of course, occurred; but these may be traced to exposure and carelessness, rather than to epidemic visitations. Upon the whole, the Indians of this sub-agency have been highly favored by an overruling Providence; for, notwithstanding their natural indolence, and their limited knowledge of agriculture, and owing to the propitiousness of the past season, they have raised, generally speaking, good crops, and in such supplies as to render the benevolence of government, at least for this year, unnecessary.

Enclosed you will find the several reports of the various Christian missionary establishments, located in this sub-agency, on the subject of schools and education. I beg to refer you to said reports. The Roman Catholic mission on Sugar creek, among the Pottawatomies, pursue, in a quiet, unostentatious way, their wonted path in the continuance of good works. The reverend fathers, by their untiring zeal, and the ladies of the Society of the Sacred Heart, on whom the female school depends, are entitled to the respect of all persons acquainted with their exertions. The school at the Wea mission, under the superintendence of the Rev. B. Adams, in which he is very ably assisted by Miss S. A. Osgood, merits particular notice—it is on the manual labor plan, and numbers about 20 scholars, male and female. Recently I was present at an examination of the pupils of this school, and was highly pleased and gratified at the progress made by the boys. They answered questions in orthography and arithmetic with ease and promptitude, and replied to interrogatories of utility and general knowledge with a readiness that was truly and agreeably astonishing. Mr. Adams and Miss Osgood deserve much credit, and it is to be hoped that the establishment will produce a change in the Wea people generally, whose habits, the bitter fruits of dissipation, have to be deplored.

The Ottowas are making rapid advances in farming, and are adopting those customs so essential to the comfort of civilized man. The annuities they receive are, individually considered, trifling; yet they have raised this year produce in abundance, and have supplied their recently arrived neighbors—the Sacs and Foxes—with plenty of cheap vegetables and other agricultural products. There has been recently erected among them, (the Ottowas,) by and through the exertions of the Rev. Jonathan Meeker, a new and commodious church. This is but another evidence of the efforts of this devoted missionary, whose unwearied zeal for the present and future welfare of the Ottowas has made them a truly industrious and moral people.

There are two missions located among the Pottawatomies, of Pottawatomie creek, where principally reside about one-half the Saint Joseph band. The one belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the other to the Baptist persuasion. I am sorry to say that, owing to the dissipated and reckless course of life pursued by the denizens of this neighborhood, little can be expected from the efforts of even the most devoted Christian teachers. A female school is kept in operation under the auspices of the Baptist mission, superintended by Miss E. McCoy; and too much praise cannot be awarded to this young lady for her unwearied attention and devotion to the scholars placed under her charge.

The Methodist society have no school here. Scholars wishing to avail themselves of instructions offered by this persuasion, are sent to the Methodist manual labor institution, situated among the Shawnees within the Fort Leavenworth agency.

I have occasionally, this past summer, and even recently, visited the settlements of the several tribes subject to my care; and I am happy to state that, from the favorableness of the past season, they have, and will raise, a sufficiency of agricultural products to supply their wants until next year. They have generally secured good crops of small grain and vegetables. The corn crops look promising everywhere. Prairie hay has been cut for the stock during the coming winter. I cannot withhold my meed of praise to the Peorias and Kaskaskias. These people receive no government annuity; they have to depend entirely on their own labor: yet, with their limited means, they have exceedingly promising crops of corn, and will be rewarded with plenty the coming winter. It may probably not be out of the way to mention that they are principally members of the Roman Catholic church.

For many years past the reports of superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, have teemed with complaints on the subject of whiskey selling to Indians. To defeat the course pursued by unprincipled white men—squatters on the Indian border—seems to be, indeed, a hopeless task. Whiskey can be procured on the line adjoining this sub-agency—viz: Van Buren county, Missouri—in any quantity. The Indians addicted to dissipation do not go into the State to drink, but rather bring it into their own country by horse loads.

To procure it, they barter away their blankets, guns, and even their ponies. In their villages, to the annoyance of the good people of their own race and of the whites residing among them, their drunken revels take place. In such scenes, man presents himself in his lowest degradation. Here, family quarrels of ancient date—feuds, which have slept for generations—suddenly awake revenge, retaliation, and their concomitant; the thirst for blood takes possession of the inebriated mind of the Indian; he strikes; he kills his foe—not his own personal enemy, but the descendant of his great, great grandfather, probably—and glories in the deed. Whereas, such is the Indian's disposition, if he had been sober, he would have given to the same man, if in distress, half of his earthly goods. Those acquainted with the Indian character know that, in his sober moments, the red man is the most tractable, peaceable, and naturally polite being in existence—a being susceptible of improvement—showing his acknowledgments for favors granted, by his exertions to deserve them; but, in his drunken paroxysms, a most reckless savage creature, void of every consideration except that which conduces to the indulgence of the moment. If the traffic in whiskey could be entirely suppressed—could the article be placed entirely out of their reach—it is my candid opinion that they would become a happy people, and eventually assume their station among the nations of the earth, which, by adverse circumstances, and their own perversity, they have hitherto forfeited. I am, through the Indians themselves, familiar with the names of several whiskey sellers on the line—viz: in Van Buren county, Missouri—and I append them to this report. For an agent, alone and unaided, to endeavor to suppress this whiskey traffic is preposterous. With the best intentions, he can only look on and deeply regret the supineness of legislators. I have to reiterate what I stated in my last year's report: that whiskey drinking is not general among these Indians. Some portions, and particular villages, are only addicted to this vice. I am happy to state that the ratification of the late treaty with the Council Bluff Indians, and those of this sub-agency, is hailed with much

satisfaction by the Pottawatomies residing here. I am of the opinion that many will emigrate next spring to the Kanzas river country. The treaty contains so many favorable features that it is to be hoped, when the Pottawatomies shall be concentrated on their new lands and form one people, after a separation of so many years, they will conduct themselves so, assisted by the advantages secured to them by the late favorable treaty, as to become a sober, moral, industrious, and religious people—a consummation most devoutly to be wished by every good man.

Agreeably to usage, I enclose, herewith, a list of the employees of government attached to this sub-agency on the 1st instant, (September 1, 1846;) at the same time I may say that I have every reason to be satisfied with the performance of the several duties assigned them. The smiths have been employed in the manufacturing and repairing of farming tools and other useful implements. The millers have regularly attended to their grinding.

With the white residents of this sub-agency I live on the most friendly terms; and I am happy to give my testimony as to their moral worth, and their strict observance of the regulations imposed by the intercourse law.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,

ALFRED J. VAUGHAN,
Indian Sub-agent.

Hon. THOS. H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

No. 21 *a*.

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK SUB-AGENCY,
Ellicottville, October 23, 1846.

SIR: I have delayed until this time to submit the annual report required of me by the regulations of the Department, of the situation of the Indians in charge of this sub-agency, in the hope of being able at the same time to communicate a full report of the statistics required by the recent instructions, prepared under the act of the last session of Congress. In this latter particular I have been disappointed, and now think it advisable to delay no longer the submission of such information as may be in my possession, reserving for a future opportunity a more full and detailed statement.

Since entering upon the discharge of the duties of my office, (July 1, 1846,) I have not been able to visit all the tribes within the limits of the agency; and many circumstances have combined to prevent me from procuring the proper information to be imbodied in this report. During the past year an unhappy difficulty has existed among the Senecas on the Cattaraugus reservation, in relation to the provisions of a law of the legislature of New York, passed April 15, 1845. Upon this subject the Indians at Cattaraugus have been divided, and the party opposed to the law have been excessively jealous of every effort to obtain a census of their number. I have made persevering efforts to fulfil the instructions of the Department, of September 1, 1846, but as yet have been unsuccessful. The chiefs and warriors opposed to the law have refused to communicate the numbers and respective ages of the members of their families, or to

furnish any of the statistics of the produce of their farms, or the description and value of their stock and farming utensils. I visited their principal chiefs at their houses, and endeavored to explain to them the views of the government in calling for the information I was required to furnish, and to impress upon them the propriety and necessity of a prompt and cheerful compliance on their part. I also employed Mr. Zachariah L. Jamieson, an intelligent chief, to aid me, and to visit in person the several families, and endeavor to persuade them to give us the necessary information to enable me to fulfil my instructions. After several councils, and many days of delay, the party opposed to the law finally communicated, through their chiefs, a peremptory refusal to permit the enumeration to proceed. I am consequently unable to return the statistics, as desired by the Department. I hope, however, after the payment of the annuities, to be able to complete this census. The difficulty in the way of the enumeration was connected with the control of their annuity funds; and that matter being disposed of, I do not doubt but they will permit me to proceed, should the Department deem it advisable at so late a period.

The same difficulty mentioned above, though arising from another cause, has been met with on the Tonawanda reservation. The chiefs in council have resolved not to leave their reservation, and to persevere in an application to the government, to modify their last treaty with the Ogden company. They have, somehow, imbibed the opinion that the census now required has some connexion with their difficulties, and they refuse to permit the enumeration to be made in the manner required by the Department.

Unless otherwise directed, I shall persevere in my endeavors to complete the census in the form desired, and I hope to succeed in season to forward the same to the Department before the meeting of Congress.

I am happy to be able to report, that the Indians residing within this sub-agency are making steady advances in improvement, both in the arts of civilized life and in the cultivation of letters. Their schools are increasing, and generally well attended, and a growing interest in the instruction of their children, is everywhere manifest among them.

Their progress in agricultural improvement is manifest from the returns I have been able to procure of the census, and from personal observation of their farms and fields previous to the harvest. Their crops, the present season, have been unusually large, and have all been secured without injury. Their stocks of cattle and horses are rapidly increasing, and many of them have become not only prosperous but wealthy farmers. The number of idle and dissolute are diminishing, and, with proper encouragement, the great mass will, in a comparatively short time, be enabled to live in circumstances of comfort. The chase is almost entirely abandoned as a means of support, and is only resorted to as a pastime, or at those seasons of the year when farming operations are usually suspended.

From the persevering efforts of the chiefs, assisted by their friends, the evils of intemperance among them are rapidly disappearing. The laws of this State against *selling* or *giving* ardent spirits to Indians, are stringent and severe, and with the aid of those among them who take an interest in their welfare, I have been for some time past enabled to render the penalties of the law effective in preventing the traffic.

The number of Indians at present residing within the limits of this sub-agency, as furnished by themselves, is as follows:

Tuscaroras, residing in Niagara county	280
Oneidas, residing in Oneida county	159
Cayugas, residing with the Senecas in western New York	88
Onondagas, residing in Onondaga county	375
Onondagas, residing on the Allegany reservation, in Cattaraugus county	88
Onondagas, residing on the Cattaraugus reservation, in Erie county	25
Onondagas, residing on the Tonawanda reservation, in Genesee county	7
Onondagas, residing with the Tuscaroras	22
Senecas, residing on the Allegany reservation	811
Do do Cattaraugus reservation	1,261
Do do Tonawanda reservation	576
Do do Buffalo	30
Oneidas, Onondagas, and Buffalo Senecas, residing at Tonawanda	79
Whole number	3,751

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. ANGEL.

Hon. Wm. Medill,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

No. 21 *b*.

On board Steamer Colorado,
Near Evansville, Indiana, October 14, 1846.

Sir: I have been so busily engaged in collecting the Miamies, and getting them thus far on their way to their new homes, that it has not been in my power until now to make my annual report. The Miamies have been in a state of perfect confusion for the past year; and very little attention has been by them paid either to farming or the chase. By the treaty of 1840 the tribe agreed to remove within five years from the lands they sold in Indiana to the country assigned them west. This time expired in November last; but, at their request, the period for removal was postponed to April last, at which time I assembled the chiefs and called upon them to comply with their treaty stipulations with the government and quietly remove.

At that time they gave me no decisive answer; but at a subsequent council in May, they asked to be permitted to remain until the first of August, promising that at that time they would take us by the hand and remove to their new homes without asking further delay, or giving any further trouble. When this promise was made I thought I could rely upon it, but I soon found that the Indians were acting in bad faith, and that an arrangement had been entered into by a portion of the traders and some unprincipled designing men, with a few of the chiefs, that additional time

should be asked under the pretence of want of preparation for removal, in order the better to enable them to thwart the government in its policy.

Soon after the council in May, the most extravagant promises were made the Indians by men who they were led to suppose possessed great influence with the Department; and by divers appliances they were induced to raise a large sum of money, not merely to defray the necessary expenses of a trip to Washington, but also to pay the *tremendous* influence which they were promised would be brought to bear upon the administration, and which they were assured would obtain for them an exchange of country, or permission to remain in Indiana, or, in fact, almost anything they could desire.

After applications of this character had been made, and promptly decided against by the Department, a copy of the decision was read and explained by me to the Indians. These men, however, still assured the Indians that no such decision had been sanctioned by the President; on the contrary, they declared that they possessed assurances from him that if the Indians should refuse to emigrate without it, their applications would be granted. Under these circumstances, I found it impossible to persuade the Miamies to keep their faith with the government, and so reported on the 19th of August last, with the suggestion that if the Department deemed it advisable to order a small force, its presence would induce them to remove peaceably. The force was furnished, and the result has been as predicted. A detachment of United States troops, under the command of Captain Jouett, arrived at Peru on the 26th September, and the Miamies left that point on the 6th of October. They are now with me, here, proceeding to their new country, contented and cheerful. The Indians, if left to act for themselves, I think, feel disposed to be honest and to do what is right; but when it is to the interest of traders to induce them to act otherwise, they too frequently succeed; and I will here repeat what I have stated in a former communication, that I am clearly of the opinion that it would be an excellent arrangement for the Department to supply the Indians with such goods as they stand in need of, and to prohibit all trade with them.

It is certain that this tribe will be beggared if the cormorants, who have been living from their means, are longer permitted to prey upon them, notwithstanding the large annuities they received. Since the treaty of 1840 the government has paid of their debts $350,000, and assumed the payment out of their annuities of $62,500 more. Large collections have also been made by the traders from the Indians, individually, at every payment since, amounting to at least $35,000 each year. Notwithstanding all this some $80,000 more is claimed; and the attempt of the traders to force the government to assume the payment of this amount has been the principal cause of all the difficulties that have been encountered in getting the Miamies to remove.

The Miamies have no school amongst them, and, with very few exceptions, seem to care little about the education of their children. They will, I hope, feel and act differently in relation to this subject when they are removed from the influences that have heretofore operated upon them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH SINCLEAR,
Sub-agent, Miamies.

COL. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

No. 22.

LAC-QUI-PARLE, *June* 30, 1846.

DEAR SIR: At the date of my last annual report, Mr. Huggins and family were absent from the station; they returned about the last of October. The laborers at this station, since that time, are Thomas S Williamson, A. M., M. D., Messrs. Alexander G. Huggins, and Jonas Pettijohn, Mrs. Williamson, Mrs. Huggins, Mrs. Pettijohn, and Miss Jane S. Williamson. Mrs. Pettijohn and Miss Williamson give their time and attention to teaching at all times when they can have scholars. In the winter and spring, so long as we could have any regular school of boys, Mr. Huggins and myself attended to teaching them. At other seasons of the year, Messrs. Huggins and Pettijohn are chiefly occupied in agricultural and mechanical labors. At all seasons a large part of my time is occupied in efforts to impart religious instruction, giving out medicine, and attending on the sick, and in conversing with the natives, with a view of convincing them of the importance of knowledge, and of the necessity of abandoning their present customs, and adopting the habits of civilized life.

No alteration worth naming has been made on the buildings here since the last report, but we have added a little to the size of our field, and have now eight or nine acres under cultivation; on this we hope, with the blessings of God, to raise not only a sufficiency of provisions for ourselves, but a large supply to give to the needy about us. So long as the principal men of the tribe and the parents of the children are opposed to their learning—utterly careless about it—we have no reason to expect that the children will be very anxious to learn; and giving them something to eat is the most effectual means of securing their attendance at school.

Many of the Indians here had good crops of corn last summer, but others had but little, and some none; and much of what was made being consumed in wakan feasts, in which a man eats enough in a single evening to do him a week; there has been, and I suppose still is, much suffering for want of food.

The want of a team prevents us from ploughing for them this year, but Mr. Huggins furnished a plough to the *Ile-wakenyan*, chief of the *Ti-zaptana*, and assisted him in making harness, with which he said he would plough for his band, and we afterwards heard he was doing so. Mr. Huggins also assisted one of the band here in making a harness for his horse, with which, using the plough you gave the chiefs of this band some years ago, he ploughed his own field and one or two others. There are others who would have ploughed, if they had had harness. The chiefs and some of the principal men from Lac-traverse, were to see me this spring, to beg seed corn and a plough and harness, but we had neither plough nor harness to spare. The Indians on the Upper St. Peter's are now pretty well supplied with horses, and if you could furnish them with a few good light ploughs and harness, it might be the means of their planting more, and so prevent much suffering among them.

Herewith you will receive a sheet showing the names, supposed ages, and studies of our shools the past year. By comparing this with former reports, you may see that our school has not been so well attended the past year as some former ones, and that there is especially a diminution of writers and those attending to arithmetic. Many who formerly attended school, and had made good progress, have moved to other parts of the country. The past winter was unusually mild and without snow, in con-

sequence of which most of the young men were absent hunting muskrats, at the season when they usually attended school. There are two other circumstances which may be mentioned, which appear chiefly to have impeded our school the past year. The first is, the want of any religious interest about the concerns of their souls. Some years ago, numbers here were inquiring what they must do to be saved. Such were anxious to learn, and have their children learn to read God's word, that they might secure eternal life; and their improvement, not only in reading, but in other things, was rapid. Some who appeared to be converted have deceased; some have moved to other parts of the country, and a part of those who remain have backslidden, and dishonored their profession. God seems to have withdrawn his spirit, and it is hard to interest the people in learning any thing good. Of the other circumstances alluded to, namely, the violent breaking up of our school last winter by the principal men in our neighborhood, you have already heard. The primary cause of this seems to have heen a false report circulated by some evil disposed persons that we were paid for teaching the children here out of money due them—the Medawakantonwans—for their lands sold the United States. Many of the Sioux think this report true. Some of the Medawakantonwans requested the Indians here to break up the school. Some of the principal men here hoped, by making a show of compliance, to gratify their friends the Medawakantonwans, from whom they receive many presents, and at the same time extort pay from us for the privilege of teaching their children. As we refused to yield to such unrighteous demands as they made, they appointed half a dozen of them as a guard to cut up the clothes of any who might be found coming to school or meeting. Made proclamation to that effect, and enforced it, by cutting the blankets of a number whom they found in our house or on the way to meeting. Thus our school was stopped at a time time when, by much labor, we were getting the children interested in their books; and for a whole month, at much the best season of the year for teaching, we could have no school except the few who were learning English, with whom, as they did not live in the camp, they did not think fit to meddle. In this time the children, who had begun to love their books, lost all interest in learning. Many of the larger boys, and some of the smaller ones, imbibed so much of the spirit of their fathers that they thought it honorable to annoy us in every way in their power.

I am sorry that the introduction and consumption of strong drink is rapidly on the increase here, and is exerting a most disastrous influence. O, that in all future treaties for the purchase of land, a provision might be inserted that no intoxicating drink should be sold on said lands so long as they shall remain the property of the United States.

Since I commenced writing this I have heard of the death of one of the most influential men of this neighborhood—killed in a drunken frolic.

Please accept of our thanks for the good advice you gave Ussi-yahdeya, the principal chief here, when he last visited you. It has had a good influence on him and some others. All those about us now profess friendship, and show that they have confidence in us by coming to us for food and medicine, and to get us to store their property for them.

Desiring that Heaven may bestow on you and your family the best of blessings, I remain, respectfully, yours,

THOMAS S. WILLIAMSON,
Missionary of A. B. C. F. M.

Col. A. J. Bruce,
Indian Agent, near Fort Snelling.

No. 23.

TRAVERSE DE SIOUX, *August* 12, 1846.

Annual report of the mission at Traverse de Sioux, under the care of the A. B. C. F. M.

Stephen R. Riggs, A. M., missionary; Robert Hopkins.

The Indians here have shown a remarkably good state of feeling towards the mission, and have committed no depredations on the property belonging to it during the year. Still, but little desire is manifested to have their children and youth educated, or their temporal condition bettered by the adoption of the habits and customs of civilized or christianized man. As they raise but little corn, or often gather little rice, they are necessarily absent many months in the year seeking something to subsist upon; this makes our school intermittent and irregular. During the last winter thirty-four children attended school; and that they might be more permanently located, we have from year to year urged upon them the advantage of planting more corn. For this purpose, last spring, Big-walker, (who is since dead,) with his near relatives, formed a new village, where Mr. Hopkins ploughed about four acres of new land. This land has produced a good crop, as also their old fields beyond the river, a part of which Mr. H. also ploughed. More corn is now being gathered in here than has been done for several years past. The prospect of an abundant crop of rice is said, also, to be very good.

Mr. Hopkins spent more than a week last spring in ploughing new fields for Sleepy Eyes and his party, at Swan lake. These fields were necessarily small, and some of them did not receive that attention which even Indians are accustomed to bestow upon them, owing to the fact that their more immediate wants could be satisfied only by going to the buffalo region. If those Indians who plant were under no temptation to hunt the buffalo, their condition and prospects would be better than they are at present. Many of those who spent the last winter on the Coteau des Prairie, were, in the spring, suddenly reduced to a state of great starvation by the disappearance of these cows of the plains.

The whiskey trade seems to be going on more briskly this season than heretofore. I do not know a single Dakota man who lives at this place, or comes here frequently, who does not sometimes get drunk; and many of them drink to great excess every opportunity. Death, in various ways, follows very swiftly. I confess that, for the great body of the nation, I have but little hope that they will not continue to go on in one or more of the broad roads that lead to their destruction. Still, a remnant I hope will be saved, and undoubtedly it will be the desire of every benevolent and good man that this remnant be made as large as possible.

In closing this brief report, I would respectfully suggest whether it would not be both benevolent and wise in our government to embrace all opportunities to impress upon these Indians the great facts of their condition. Not only in their present course they are working out their own destruction, and that they must seek to change entirely their customs and habits, (which I doubt not you do,) but that if they would continue to exist at all, it must be as individuals and not as a nation; that the holding land in common is injurious to their interests as individuals, and that no guaranty which our government can give them can possibly secure it to

them, in this way, for any great length of time; and, finally, that the sooner they come under the restraints and protection of law, the better it will be for themselves and their posterity.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. R. RIGGS.

To Col. A. J. Bruce,
Indian Agent, St. Peter's.

No. 24.

Oak Grove, *August* 12, 1846.

Sir: I submit to you the following report of the condition of our Indian school, taught at this place during the past winter. The whole number of our scholars exceeded thirty, but the average attendance during the continuance of the school (that is, from September to May,) was but ten. While the Indians were all here, during the winter, the average daily attendance was fifteen.

Four of our scholars were taught to read English, the others were instructed only in Sioux.

We find it difficult to maintain a school in summer, as the children in pleasant weather prefer playing to reading, and we have no regular school except in cold weather. Parents manifest but little anxiety to have their children taught; but, during the past winter, there was less opposition to our school than formerly. Most of the Indians belonging to this band, who have children, are willing to have them instructed. Many who care but little to have their children taught to read Sioux, wish to have them learn English; but we have taken little pains to teach them English owing to the difficulty of doing it while the children remain with their parents. Many of them might no doubt be gathered into a boarding school, but this would be attended with more expense than the society by which we are supported would be willing to incur, especially as these Indians have ample funds of their own set apart for the purpose of education.

We are supported in our labors here by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, at an expense of about two hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

Yours, respectfully,

S. W. POND.

Col. A. J. Bruce, *St. Peter's.*

No. 25.

Winnebago School, *August* 15, 1846.

Sir: I entered on the duties of superintendent of the Winnebago school on the 1st day of May last. Eighty-five children were found registered on the daily list; but, as usual at all Indian schools, the whole number were not in constant attendance. Twenty new scholars have been added in the course of the summer: making one hundred and five now connected with the institution.

The improvement of the pupils is in the various stages of an elementary education, from the alphabet to a respectable knowledge of figures, geography, &c. Herewith you have a sample of their writing. Several others, equally as creditable, might have been obtained, but the children were absent. Many are just beginning to form letters. The proportion of males and females in the school is nearly equal. The latter have a few the most.

The girls, as heretofore, are taught to sew; and, with the assistance of the lady in charge, make all the clothes worn at the school. The boys have been called out at regular periods to labor on the farm, and it is intended to make manual labor a part of the system of instruction.

To those capable of comparing the present condition of the Winnebagoes with the past, the tribe will appear greatly improved. They own more property than when their school commenced; their physical sufferings have been much diminished, and many of their youths are educated. Their disposition to cultivate the soil is increasing. They employ their horses in ploughs and wagons, and would live in houses, but have been discouraged by government, owing to their unsettled state. Their numerical strength is also increasing.

No one cause has more retarded the progress of improvements among the Winnebagoes than a want of a permanent home. * * *

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This state of uncertainty has not only discouraged the Indians and kept them in confusion, but prevented the erection of such additional buildings for the accommodation of the school as the increased number of scholars required. We are now laboring under much inconvenience for the want of more room in the school, and, without repairs, the present building will not be comfortable for the winter.

So long as the children of the Winnebagoes are leaving school, and are obliged to return to a homeless and houseless people, their education can be of but little service, and the customs of the *wigwam will be continued. But give them a home that they can call theirs forever, and their circumstances will soon create literary wants and dictate a change of habits.*

Whiskey, and intercourse with the whites, continue to be the *stereotyped curse* of the red man, and will remain so until the light and truth and principles of religion can be made the basis of a new arrangement among the Indians. To raise a nation from a savage to a civilized and happy state without the aid of religion, is impossible.

I have more than once suggested the propriety of sending off, with the consent of parents, a few of the most promising children of the school to complete their education in some religious white community. I have also urged the necessity of a small printing press *here*, to be employed in throwing out moral sentiments among the children adapted to their capacities and circumstances. A practical printer might serve as teacher of the school. The Indian boys would soon learn to set type, which would not only be a source of amusement but of thought.

In attempts to elevate a nation, success depends on a variety of *little*

things. In the moral, as well as the natural world, great effects proceed from little causes; nor must we become impatient should the result of effort be delayed. Those who have labored longest and been most successful, know that to change the habits of a people is not the work of a day.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. LOWRY,
Superintendent Winnebago School.

Gen. J. E. FLETCHER,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

No. 26.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,
September 22, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: I have lately, in compliance with the regulations, completed a tour of inspection of the several Indian schools of this sub agency. I have, with much concern, found that the one for which the fund of $1,500 annually was doubtless mainly intended, to wit: among the Menomonies, has been the most inefficiently conducted, and produced the least good to the Indians of all.

The (hitherto) superintendent, the Rev. Theodore J. Vanden Broek, does not, and never has *lived* at their village, but nearly thirty miles distant, and has spent but a few days, in the course of the year, at lake Pah-way-hi kun: he has left the school to the care of others; and it has, in fact, had but little care from any one.

The principal men of this band have presented formal complaints against him for neglect of the school and a waste of the money, and desiring him to be withdrawn from among them; this they repeated, for the third time, a few weeks ago.

From their complaints, as well as my own knowledge, I have been induced to signify to him that, after the 1st instant, this department will no longer recognise him as the superintendent of the school at lake Pah-way-hi-kun, and to request him to withdraw from their village.

A full statement of the matter has been made by me to the Right Rev. John M. Henni, Catholic bishop of Wisconsin, and Mr. Vanden Broek's proper superior, with a request that he would supply his place *as superintendent.* I have also stated to the bishop that it is the desire of the Department to establish, without delay, *two* good English schools at lake Pah-way-hi-kun, and requested him to name two teachers, subject to the approval of the Indian Department, who shall *enter into contract with the sub-agent* for the faithful discharge of their duties.

The right reverend bishop has responded, approving of the course taken by me, and has withdrawn Mr. Vanden Broek from the mission. He has also named two teachers for lake Pah-way-hi-kun, one of whom has entered into contract.

I have thus, most excellent sir, made a move towards establishing, as I trust, *schools among the Menomonies.* But, to carry out my views, it is indispensable that I should have permission to expend forthwith the sum of $150 in *finishing* a school-house—the body of which has, with a praiseworthy zeal, been put up by the Indians themselves. I propose to make

this expenditure out of the fund applicable for educational purposes, so as not to draw upon the Department. It is wanted to finish the two floors, four windows, one door, a part of the covering, a stove, benches, and such other incidentals as may be necessary to make the house comfortable for the purpose.

Trusting that I shall be seconded in this endeavor for these interesting people, I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS, *Sub-agent.*

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 27.

SUB-INDIAN AGENCY, GREEN BAY,
September 24, 1846.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: I completed, on the 10th of September, a tour of inspection of the several Indian schools in this agency. The following, in relation thereto, is submitted:

1. *School among the first Christian party of the Oneidas, at Duck creek.*

Their school-house is in an unfinished state; $100 is necessary to complete it.

This school is established by the Protestant Episcopal church, and is under the superintendence of the Rev. Solomon Davis, a native Oneida Indian being a teacher. The Indian language only is taught; though I understand, from Mr. Davis, that the English will be taught in future.

The general appearance of the children, and the interest they appear to take in their studies, is highly interesting. Number of scholars 35.

According to the report of Mr. Davis, the Protestant Episcopal church has expended, since October last, the sum of $275, for the benefit of this school and the mission to which it is attached. This school is useful; improving the character of this people. It will be of the first importance to have the English language taught in it.

2. *School among the Orchard party of the Oneidas, at Duck creek.*

It was closed at the time of my visit; the Rev. Curtis G. Lathrop being in attendance at the Methodist conference. Mr. Lathrop teaches himself. It numbers 45 scholars—20 males, 25 females. It is taught regularly in the English language; in which the pupils make good progress. It is highly useful, and should be suitably encouraged. I am unable to state the amount of support given to this mission by the Methodist Episcopal church. Their log school-house is in a dilapidated condition; some $150 will be necessary to *aid* them in building a new one.

3. *Among the Stockbridge Indians, east side of Winnebago lake.*

There are two schools, under the supervision of a board of school commissioners. In both there are 110 scholars—male and female; and

resemble, in their advancement and general learning, a similar number of scholars in any of our country common schools. Nothing but English is taught; and they all speak it fluently. The process is *completing* their civilization, and will soon induce them to lay aside entirely their own language. The teachers are employed by the commissioners, from time to time, as the fund allowed by government will pay. The schools are at this moment discontinued, but will be opened again in a few days. Their school-houses are tolerable, and nothing is necessary on that account.

4. *Among the Brothertown Indians, east side of Winnebago lake.*

The same general remarks made of the Stockbridges are applicable here. They have two excellent schools, under the territorial township system, (for they are citizens of the United States,) of commissioners and trustees. Not having received their annual report, I am unable to give the precise number of scholars or the teachers' names. They have about 100 scholars, all reading and speaking fluently the English language. They are a civilized people, and have laid aside (lost) entirely the Indian language. They have no need of aid on account of their school-houses; both of which are good.

5. *School among the Menomonies, at lake Pah-way-hi-kun.*

I have reserved this to the last, wishing to call particular attention to it. The fund of $1,500 per annum was doubtless mainly designed for the benefit of this tribe. I have been deeply concerned to find that, hitherto, it has produced no improvement to these people. *I cannot find one of them, either adult or child, that can read a word of English,* (except a few that were educated, some years ago, at Green Bay mission school;) and their whole Indian literature may be comprised in about 100 pages. The fund applied for their benefit, thus far, has been utterly wasted. Of this the Indians are deeply sensible, and show it in the most earnest remonstrance to me, and supplications for the establishment of *English schools.*

On visiting lake Pah way-hi-kun in August, I found that they had but a miserable apology for a school; and that it had been open but a small part of the time for the year past. The professed superintendent, Rev. T. J. Vanden Broek, does not, and never did, reside there; and only visited there occasionally, at long intervals, leaving the school to the care of an assistant, whom he so poorly paid, that he did not find time to give it attention. It was (when opened at all) kept in a miserable room, in a trader's house, without convenience of any kind, and but illy supplied with books; and, on the whole, appeared to me calculated rather to disgust the children than advance them in learning.

The Indians presented, at three several times, the most formal complaints against Mr. Vanden Broek for neglect of them, desiring me to have him removed, and a good school opened without delay. Considering what had come under my own observation, and the complaints of the Indians, I felt compelled to desire Mr. Vanden Broek to withdraw. I laid the whole matter before the Right Reverend John M. Henni, Roman Catholic bishop of Milwaukie, and Mr. Vander Broek's proper superior, with a request that he would supply his place as superintendent. I also stated to him that it was my determination to establish, if possible, two good *Eng-*

lish schools forthwith at lake Pah-way-bi-kun, and desired him to name two teachers, subject to the approval of the Indian Department, who should *enter into contract with the sub-agent for a faithful discharge of their duties.* The right reverend bishop promptly replied, approving of the course I had taken, withdrawing Mr. Vanden Broek, and named a new superintendent and two teachers, one of whom has already entered into contract.

There is but one school-house at lake Pah-way-bi-kun, and that is exclusively used as a church; the Department has no control over it; and I find it indispensable to expend some $150 in finishing a log building which has lately been erected expressly for the purpose by the Indians themselves. I beg to refer to the communication I had the honor to forward to your excellency, on this point, on the 22d instant. If sustained in these endeavors by the Hon. Wm. Medill, I have good hopes of being able to make the educational fund tell, in future, for the benefit of the Menomonies.

Hitherto there has been a radical defect in the mode of disbursing the fund. The teachers have been employed by, and made responsible not to the agents of the government, but to the several superintendents of mission schools, &c., alleged to have been established among the Indians. In too many instances, mere pretences of schools have been set up to claim the fund, while no valuable services have been rendered.

It is my desire, in future, if I can obtain the approbation of your excellency and the Hon. William Medill, to place teachers *under contract*, and not to pay money, (at least so far as the Menomonies are concerned,) except on contract duly performed. It is my design, furthermore, to require *monthly reports* (according to the blank sample herewith enclosed) from the teachers, in order that we may have some evidence of the services, and the progress of the pupils. And while it shall be the pleasure of the government to continue me in this trust, I propose making *frequent visits* to these schools.

The Menomonies should chiefly occupy our care in this matter; the allowance to them should be increased from $750 to $850, by a deduction from the other schools. They are keenly sensible of their need of education, and will then, I am sure, appreciate the efforts of government in their behalf.

I am, most excellent sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALBERT G. ELLIS, *Sub-agent.*

To his Excellency HENRY DODGE,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

A report of the schools among the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin Territory.

First term, but one school, taught from January first to March seventh, 1846; in all, nine weeks and two days. Number of different scholars, eighty; average attendance, fifty. These divided into classes as follows:

First class numbered twelve—six males and as many females; ages from fourteen to twenty; studies, geography, Adams and Colburn's arithmetics, United States History, writing, and spelling; conduct and capacity to learn generally very good; lost time in attendance, from one to two weeks of the whole term.

Second class had in it twelve—eight boys and four girls; ages from nine to twenty; with two exceptions, the conduct and capacity of this class pretty good; studies attended to were Olney's small geography, Colburn's Mental Arithmetic, reading, spelling, and writing; time of attendance varied from four weeks to about the entire term.

Third class embraced nine—all boys; ages from eight to twelve; studies, reading, writing, and spelling. In conduct and capacity, this class was among the best and brightest in the school. Attendance, from two-thirds to the whole time taught.

Fourth class contained thirteen—four males and nine females; ages from six to fourteen; studies were reading, writing, and spelling; with one exception, the conduct and capacity of this class would even do honor to more civilized and intelligent communities; some in the class, in consequence of sickness, attended but a month; most, however, were punctual.

Fifth class numbered five—all boys; capacity to learn, the poorest in the school, though in conduct pretty good; ages from eight to twelve; studies were reading, spelling, and forming letters and figures upon the slate. In attendance, the most irregular.

Sixth class embraced three—all girls; progress made very rapid; principal studies, reading, spelling; and, as the fifth class, were exercised in forming letters and figures on the slate. In attendance, this class was the most punctual.

Seventh class comprised two girls; capacities to learn very poor, though in conduct pretty good; ages about eleven; attendance very irregular; studies reading and spelling.

Eighth class consisted of ten—ages from four to nine; with two or three exceptions, very good to learn; all these commenced with their A, B, Cs, but were left in words of two and three syllables, at the close of the term. Besides regular reading, the class was practised in learning and answering questions respecting noted Bible characters, with other useful lessons and questions; in attendance very irregular.

Two or three other small classes may only be noticed as having made good proficiency in reading and other things taught them. A few young men came in from time to time to write and cipher, who likewise made good progress.

The whole school was more or less exercised in reciting simultaneously the multiplication table, the abbreviations, and in singing, the latter of which was peculiarly pleasing both to parents and children.

The above apparent irregularities in attendance may be accounted for, in most cases, by the unusual prevalence of the whooping cough in the early part of the spring, and which ultimately brought the school to a close much sooner than was intended.

The second term of school reported commenced on the 26th of May, extending to the 19th of September, 1846—in all sixteen weeks. Number of scholars attending the two schools taught during the term were one hundred and ten—average attendance, seventy.

The school in the south district, taught by Miss C. A. Stewart, reports as follows: Different scholars in attendance, fifty-four; average number from thirty to thirty-eight.

First class contains three—two males and one female; ages from twelve to sixteen; studies, Adams's Arithmetic, Olney's Geography, reading, writ-

ing, and spelling; conduct and capacity very good; absences vary from one to nineteen days of the whole term taught.

Second class has nine—seven males and two females; ages from six to twelve; studies, Parley's Geography, Colburn's Mental Arithmetic, reading, and spelling; capacity and conduct pretty good; absences from seven to twelve days of the whole term reported.

Third class comprises twelve—ten males and two females; ages from eight to fourteen. This class commenced in words of five letters, and have gone through the Pictorial Spelling Book, containing one hundred and sixty-eight pages, and are now reading in Sanders's First Reader; with one exception, capacity and conduct very good.

Fourth class contains three—all females; ages about eight; commenced with their abs, and have gone through the Pictorial Primer, a book containing forty-eight pages; conduct and capacity good.

Fifth class, numbering twenty-seven, has been divided into three or four minor classes, but called one class because all in their A, B, Cs; out of the whole twenty-seven, three, seemingly not far from idiocy, continue in their letters. The rest have made commendable progress, and now spell in words of two and three syllables; conduct of this class ordinary; eighteen males and nine females.

The above is a condensed report, noticing only the most important things. On account of the unsettled state of affairs in the tribe, this district has been much neglected. Having no school for the last five or six years, the children, who have grown up during that time hardly knew what a school was, or what it was to get a lesson; consequently, the teacher has had a very hard task through the summer. It will be seen above that about two-thirds of the school commenced their letters. The rest, from irregularity and other causes, may not have made the advances that might be wished; still, so far as approbation of the teacher's services are concerned, it is the united impression of both trustees and people that she has spared no strength nor pains in trying to advance and improve the children. This school, as well as the other, is intended to be continued, if possible, the winter and year.

The north district school, taught by Miss E. S. Newhall, would report as follows: Number of different scholars, fifty-six; average attendance, thirty-six; number of classes in the school, twelve.

First class numbers thirteen—five boys and eight girls; ages from ten to sixteen; conduct and ability, the best in the school; studies, arithmetic, geography, reading, and writing; in attendance, rather irregular.

Second class has eight—one male and seven females; ages from nine to thirteen; studies, the same as the first class, with one exception; conduct and capacity generally good; attendances, vary from seven weeks to the whole term reported.

Third class comprises five—three boys and two girls; ages from seven to thirteen; conduct, good; capacity, ordinary; studies, reading, spelling, and arithmetic; attendance, from one week to the whole of the term.

Fourth class, containing six boys and six girls, commenced in words of three letters, and have read through the Pictorial Primer, a book of forty-eight pages, several times; conduct and capacity generally very good. Four of them have attended but only six weeks; the rest have been somewhat regular.

Fifth class, composed of twelve, began their letters; but, from irregularity,

one has failed to learn them at the end of the term. Only four of the whole number have attended regularly through. These read in words of four letters.

It will be seen that all the classes have not been particularly noted in the above, because the report is written in such a way that each class noticed comprehends one or two others studying different branches. Irregularities in attendance have arisen from various causes. The fruitful summer brings with it greater temptations for children to ask leave of absence from school of their parents than the winter. And parents, in a community no more enlightened than this, and where the tribal affairs lie in so perplexing a state, are apt to show greater lenity to children, and indifference to privileges, than others. The trustees and school commissioners are, however, in no way discouraged, but rather the contrary. As long as a pleasant home and a fruitful soil keep and support a people gradually rising in learning and industry, they must necessarily come to maturity, though the work of perfection be slow.

JOHN N. CHICKS,
JEREMIAH SLINGERLAND,
School Commissioners.

No. 29.

ONEIDA WEST MISSION, DUCK CREEK,
July 30, 1846.

SIR: I herewith present you my annual report for the year ending July 31, 1846. I did not arrive at this mission until the last of November; and, having much to do to prepare for winter, I was unable to begin the school until the 12th day of January; since which time it has been taught regularly (except the usual vacations of spring and summer) five months lacking five days. The whole number of pupils that have attended is 45—males 20, females 25; 10 are over 13 and under 18 years of age; 7 are under 5; the rest are between the ages of 5 and 13; 2 study arithmetic, 9 write, 7 are in their letters, and the remainder are learning to read and spell only. The English language only has been taught; 8 have attended this school that belong to the first Christian party. The children board with their parents. There seems to be an increasing interest in the school. The children have made as good proficiency as could be expected under the circumstances. Most of them discover a disposition and capacity to learn. We regret that their attendance is so irregular as greatly to hinder their progress in learning. I have tried different ways to overcome this evil, but with little success as yet.

We started a temperance society at this mission on the 20th of April last. We now have on the list 90 names—all men and women but 8 or 10. Only 4 or 5, as yet, have been reported as guilty of violating their pledge; and these will be reformed, if possible, by the labors of the committee appointed to that work. We are quite confident of success in our temperance enterprise, for the chiefs of this party are the leading men in it.

This nation suffers greatly from the sale of intoxicating drinks at the town of Green Bay. No dram-shop is allowed in the nation. Large, or-

derly, and attentive congregations attend the church at this mission regularly on the Sabbath. As I have been here so short a time, I am not prepared to say much concerning the improvement of the people generally.

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Submitted by your humble servant,

CURTIS G. LATHROP,
Methodist Episcopal Missionary at Duck creek.

Hon. A. G. Ellis,
Indian Agent at Green Bay.

No. 30.

Oneida Mission, Duck Creek,
Wisconsin Territory, September 2, 1846.

Sir: The school at this station has been continued during the past year. Average number of scholars, 30—one-half being females. The children have been instructed in the common branches of education; their improvement is highly satisfactory. The school and mission enjoy the patronage of the domestic committee of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church, who have expended for its support, from the 1st of October last, the sum of $275. The number employed in the mission is four—myself, wife, teacher, and interpreter.

According to the census of last year, the whole number of the tribe is 720. Over 500 of this number belong to the first Christian party of Oneidas, and are under my charge. A large majority of them are sober and industrious in their habits. As a tribe, they have abandoned the chase, and are depending entirely upon the cultivation of the soil for subsistence.

I am, sir, your friend and most obedient servant,

SOLOMON DAVIS.

A. G. Ellis, Esq.,
United States Sub-agent, Green Bay.

No. 31.

Annual report of the Catholic Mission Schools of the Little Chute, Fox river, and Pawagan, at the Wolf river, Wisconsin Territory.

Theodore J. Vanden Broek, principal; established for the benefit of the Menomonie Indians; from September, 1845, to September, 1846.

The Roman Catholic sect of Menomonies, who are living at the lake Pawagan, and some of whom at the Little Chute on Fox river, and at Green Bay, are in number about 350. They are not much acquainted with the English language, of which it is not intended to keep them in ignorance, as is erroneously supposed, but because they are usually wont to converse with French missionaries. Their intercourse in civil and religious business is most commonly with French people; moreover, their books of religion are all written in their own language, so that there exists in

their minds a desire of adhering to their former customs and language that becomes exceedingly difficult to eradicate.

Hence it was deemed necessary, in order that they might become good and civilized Christians, to instruct them in the duties of religion—first, in their own language; and also that their attainment of the English might be more easily effected.

They are advancing considerably in religion, perfection and reformation of their morals.

On the last annual payment, in October, 1845, strangers and visitors, while in their church, were amazingly astonished at witnessing their religious order and skill in church music.

This last year they were taught the English language, in which they have not made much progress; however, most of the children understand spelling and some reading, and a few writing. Nevertheless, many of them can read and write in their own language.

At present, the teachers are Messrs. Peter Webster, Thomas McGogh, and myself.

THEODORE J. VANDEN BROEK,
Missionary and Superintendent.

No. 32.

To the commissioners of common schools of the town of Manchester, Calumet county, Wisconsin Territory.

We, the trustees of school district No. 2, in said town, in conformity with the laws for the support of common schools, do certify and report:

First. That the number of scholars in said district between the age of four and the age of sixteen years, is 57; of which 34 are males, and 23 are females.

Second. That two qualified teachers have been employed in said district school during the past year—both males—Lyman P. Fowler and George W. Hallock.

Third. That to said teachers have been paid the sum of, to wit: to Lyman P. Fowler thirty-six dollars, for two months' services; and to George W. Hallock the sum of sixty dollars, for five months' services.

Fourth. That the length of time which schools have been kept during the year, is seven months; all of which has been kept by male teachers.

ISAAC WANBY, } *Trustees.*
WILLIAM DICK, Jr., }

MANCHESTER, *Sept.* 25, 1846.

We, the undersigned, trustees of district school No. 2, in the town of Manchester, do certify the above report to be correct and true.

ISAAC WANBY, } *Trustees.*
WILLIAM DICK, Jr., }

No. 33.

LA POINTE, *July* 30, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose to you my annual report, as superintendent of the schools and mission station at this place, under the direction of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

The two schools heretofore reported—one for males, and the other for females—were regularly kept in operation until the 1st March; at which time the parents of nearly all the children attending the boys' school removing to their places of sugar making, and taking their families with them, the school was suspended. The former teacher of this school removing from this place in May, the school has not been resumed. The other school has been in operation to the present time, with the exception of two weeks vacation in the Spring. The number of pupils on the teachers' lists has been 90—54 males, and 36 females. They have been taught to read, some in English, some in Ojibwa, and some in both languages. The branches attended to are reading, writing, spelling, elements of geography, arithmetic, history, composition, and needle-work.

The ages of the pupils vary from five to sixteen or eighteen years.

There has been, as heretofore, much irregularity in the attendance of the children, owing to the migratory habits of the Indians, the want of interest on the part of parents in the improvement of their children, and great deficiency in family government. The children are partly full Indian, and partly mixed blood. The greater portion are mixed.

During the past year, Mr. Wheeler has removed from this place, with his family, to Bad river, to the place where the government farm is located. Mr. Sproot, the former teacher of the boys' school, has left the service of the board. In consequence of the unrestrained introduction of large quantities of intoxicating liquor among the band at Pokaguma, and the consequent dissipation and recklessness of the Indians, the mission station there is about to be abandoned. Mr. Ely, who has for some years past taught an Indian school there, is expected to remove to this place and take charge of the boys' school. As soon as practicable after his arrival, the school will be put in operation again.

A spelling-book in Ojibwa, with a translation of most of the lessons into English, has been prepared, and was sent to Boston to be printed several months ago. It is prepared and printed at the expense of the A. B. C. F. M. We expect to have copies of it in our school, soon.

The individuals now connected with this station are, Rev. S. Hall, missionary; Mrs. Hall; Edmund F. Ely, teacher of the boys' school; Mrs. Ely; Miss Abby Spooner, teacher of the girls' school. Number of pupils, males 54, females 36—total 90.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. HALL.

TO JAMES P. HAYS, Esq.,
Sub-agent at La Pointe.

No. 34.

In obedience to your request, I send you the following report of the school of Fond du Lac mission:

The whole number of scholars taught, 40. Average number in daily attendance, 15; whole number of males, 30; whole number of females, 10. Branches taught, reading, writing, and figures.

The scholars are making fine progress, and a desire seems to be manifest among them to learn. I hope soon to be able to report a much larger number in daily attendance.

E. H. DAY, *Teacher.*

No. 35.

SANDY LAKE, *June* 8, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In obedience to your call, I herewith present to you my report of this place. During the past fall and winter the Indians have followed their usual hunts, and very few have remained here. During that time I have taught what children were here.

Since their return from their sugar and spring hunts I have not been able to teach, having many things to attend to—assist what little I could the farmer, making garden for myself, and preparing my school-house. I have just got through repairing it, and will soon commence teaching. However, I have had a regular Sabbath school in our house.

I am not able to give you the number of pupils who do attend our Sabbath school, but I am happy to state to you that there has been a gradual improvement in industry, morality, and religion. Our meetings have been well attended. The most marked evidence of improvement, and the surest pledge of advance we find in the increasing attention given to the truths of the Gospel here lately, is, that a family have given us their names as being determined to abandon their old religion and superstitions, and as wishing to become like good Christians. As a missionary, I have *endeavored*—I say *endeavored*—to do good to my Red Brethren at this place and elsewhere, and to impart to them what little understanding I have, (though I have but very little,) and to assist them all I can for their temporal good; for this spring I have given for seed 23½ bushels of potatoes, which I have distributed among them.

The Indians at this place, generally, begin to see the importance of becoming settled down, and trying to raise something for their living: however, this is the farmer's business to report. One great hindrance, however, to their spiritual and temporal welfare, I found among them, viz: the use of ardent spirits; and some of these Indians go down below and bring quantities of it to this place.

I hope, sir, the day is not far distant when every Indian of this band shall become the happy subject and give full evidence of the reality of the white man's religion.

The present prospect of this mission is cheering of doing good in spiritual matters, though I have many difficulties to contend with; but I feel for these my Red Brethren, that I cannot let them go without making a fair trial.

Your obedient servant,

JOHN JOHNSON.

Mr JAMES P. HAYS,
Sub-agent, Indian Department.

No. 36.

SANDY LAKE INDIAN FARM, *June* 30, 1846.

DEAR SIR: Herewith is my report of work done by me at this station since the 1st July, 1845.

I made and cut, since the time above mentioned, 18 tons of hay. I have cleared 10 acres of land, and, I very much regret to say, without the help of the Indians. I have ploughed 23 acres of land for the Indians, and 4 acres for the use of our station; also, 1 acre for their missionary established here. Also, made 1½ mile of fence, (picket fence, with pins,) and cut 4,500 rails, which I have drawn from about 3 miles. I have drawn and cut a barn, 24 by 26, which I have raised and covered. I have also drawn a house for Martin Luther, from about 3 miles, and one for the striker. I made, also, 1 ox sled, 3 yokes, 1 harrow; hung 2 grindstones; and divers other things belonging to a farm—pitchforks, rakes, &c.

The Indians have planted 124 bushels of potatoes this spring, and 7 bushels of peas, and a great quantity of squashes and corn; I could not ascertain the quantity. One of these Indians here, named Martin Luther, has sowed oats, and other things, more than any other person here. He is the only industrious Indian here. The rest of the Indians are very much pleased to have gardens, provided they do not work to get them; in general they are pretty lazy. The prospects here would be very flattering, were it not for the liquor they bring here every day; that is the only obstacle in our way, for, instead of working, they keep drunk.

As hope is a good post, I rely altogether on it for better success with the Indians.

The following is the stock on hand—implements, &c.:

2 yoke of oxen, 1 bull, 1 cow and calf, 1 horse, 1 plough, (the other is broke,) 2 harrows, 4 scythes, 3 snaths, 3 scythe stones, 10 ox bows, 3 yokes, 2 chains, 4 hay rakes, 2 cast-steel hay forks, 1 bush scythe, 3 augers, 3 gimlets, 2 ox bells, 1 American axe, 1 grindstone, 2 spades, 1 hand-saw, 3 planes, 1 ox sled.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL H. BEAULIEU,
U. S. Indian Farmer.

To JAS. P. HAYS, Esq.,
Sub-agent of Indian Affairs, La Pointe.

No. 37.

BAD RIVER, *July* 31, 1846.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I would state, in relation to our missionary operations at Bad river, that we commenced clearing land and preparations to build a year ago last spring, and have now, as the result of these labors, some twelve acres of land cleared and a part of it under cultivation, planted chiefly with potatoes. We have also a pasture fenced, and stable built for our cattle. Our house, which is a commodious building, a story and a half high, was so far completed last spring that we moved into it with our family the first of May.

For several years past a school has been kept here every spring, while the Indians have been at the gardens. Last year we kept a school, for the first time, in the fall, while the Indians were here gathering their crops, after payment. This last spring a school was kept by Mrs. W. and myself, until the Indians left us. The building we have hitherto occupied as a school-house is a temporary log shanty, too far from the house to be convenient, and unfit for permanent use. We have the timber on the ground for a good building near the mission premises, which we hope to finish soon, to be used for a school-house and a place for holding public worship.

The great hindrance to a prosperous school here arises from the unsettled habits of the people, and the little importance they attach to the education of their children. While there are children enough here for a male and female school, each numbering twenty-five scholars, the average attendance as yet in our school, for children of both sexes, has not been more than from twelve to twenty; though at times, for a few days, we have had as many as thirty. We shall endeavor, on our part, to render the school as efficient as practicable; and hope, if the people advance in civilization, especially if brought under the influence of the Gospel, to see our school prosperous, and see all our labors crowned with more abundant success. The Indians of this band last year remained at the gardens, and at the sugar camps near by, one-half of the time. This is a greater portion of the year than they have ever remained here before. In respect to their disposition to cultivate the soil, it can be said to their credit that they cultivate double the amount of land now that they did four years ago.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

L. H. WHEELER.

To JAMES P. HAYS, Esq.,
Sub-agent at La Pointe.

No. 38.

DETROIT, *September* 30, 1846.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit a tabular report of the Indian schools connected with the Catholic mission under my charge, together with a list containing the names, ages, and sexes of the scholars who have attended school any portion of the year.

It affords me great pleasure to communicate the deep and increasing interest manifested by the Indians, generally, upon the important subject of education. The scholars have made good improvement in their studies, and, by their deportment, gained the esteem and respect of their teachers. In some of our schools the number of pupils has greatly increased, and their attendance has been more regular; though in this respect some of the scholars, particularly among the largest, have suffered great loss, as many of them had indispensable duties to perform at home. However, the parents, generally, show great eagerness to have their children educated, and will often endure privations rather than keep them from school. I feel happy in stating that the Ottowa Indians of the Catholic missions of Arbre Croche, Middletown, Lacroix, Cheboygan, and

Manistie, have this year more than ever turned their attention to the necessary parts of domestic economy. Their conduct has, in general, been most exemplary and edifying. Industry and sobriety seem to be great objects of emulation among them; so that, with regard to civilization, intelligence, morality, religion, and the securing of comfortable means of support from their agricultural efforts, their condition is most flattering.

With regard to the Catholic mission among the Chippewa Indians, on the western side of Anse Kewawenon, I cannot but say, with deep sensation of joy, that the rapid progress in civilization and happiness of life which the Indians of this missionary establishment exhibited in a very short period since their conversion, has become a subject of admiration to all those who visited the Anse during the two preceding summers. They have entirely abandoned their savage habits and mode of living, and are become a good, industrious, and sober band of Indians. They now all live in houses, and cultivate the ground. They have a farmer with them, whom Rev. F. Baraga hired for three years, and two yoke of oxen to plough a large piece of ground, of about 25 acres, which these Indians themselves have cleared in the middle of a thick wilderness, and enclosed within a common fence. In this common field each family has a lot, which they cultivate according to their wants. The present number of families belonging to this establishment is thirty-three; some more families from the inland purpose to embrace the Catholic religion, and settle at the Anse.

The change for the better is indeed surprising in this band of Indians, especially their sobriety. Before their conversion they were all confirmed drunkards, without exception. But now, they have all given up drinking, and bound themselves by solemn promise to abstain from ardent spirits; and they also do all in their power to prevent liquor being brought in their village. They had made this promise a long time ago in the hands of Rev. F. Baraga, their missionary and teacher; but when I had the pleasure of visiting them last July, they all took the pledge of total abstinence at my hands. This pledge is printed in the Chippewa language, and was administered with impressive solemnity, before the altar in the missionary church at the Anse.

I have the honor to be, with high regard and esteem, your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE, *B'p Z. C. A. D.*

WILLIAM A. RICHMOND, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

No. 39.

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY,
September 26, 1846.

SIR: In presenting the annual report of the mission school and station at Grand Traverse bay, it will be my object to give, as it is doubtless the desire of the government to receive, a brief detail of facts showing the condition and improvement of this people. Last fall I felt it to be my duty to report the conduct of an Indian who brought liquor to this place. The better portion of the people wished this to be done, and the reproof he

received at the office was salutary on more than himself. A portion was displeased with my reporting him. Subsequently to their return from payment, I found it necessary to separate from our church a man who had been guilty of repeated immoralities. This also gave offence to some of his friends. These feelings we are satisfied were fostered and aggravated, if not directly yet indirectly, by visits from the Catholic priest of the Little Traverse, who comes under the cover of visiting his members, but most manifestly to make proselytes. Meetings in opposition to our meetings were commenced under the care of an Indian. Much effort was made during the winter to get members; and by representation that the instruction we gave was hard to learn, and the other was easier, and imposed less restraint on wrong doing, a number were induced to submit to be baptized, and were enrolled as Christian Indians. Most of them, it was well known by those acquainted with the individuals, although baptized, were the same unchanged heathens. The summer has shown this to be true, as they were the first to join in drinking when an opportunity offered. These efforts have drawn some away from the school and our instruction on the Sabbath. Some dissatisfaction was also manifested with respect to the teacher of the school; partly owing to his want of good management in the school, and partly in consequence of his correcting some of the children, which gave offence, and probably originated some false reports respecting him. On reporting the facts to the officers of the board, they thought best that he should relinquish the charge of the school.

One further fact has had an influence on the school this summer, viz: A number of families went to the fishing ground, which occasioned the withdrawal of some of the children, not only during the time of absence, but previous to their going. Having enlarged their gardens and increased their planting, they had an increased amount of labor to perform, which required all hands to finish in order to be ready by the time the fishing season commenced. From the causes above stated, the attendance on the school has not been as large as in some former years.

The labor of instructing a rude and ignorant people like the Indian, is one of much trial and many discouragements; and where there is so little family government, where the children are allowed to go and come, and do as they please, it is very difficult to secure any thing like the regular attendance common in well regulated schools, without which the improvement must be slow.

Order as well as attendance is necessary; to obtain which, discipline must be exercised. This, in some cases, will excite bad feelings, which may be so fostered or inflamed as to induce the parents to neglect the means of instruction afforded their children.

While the attendance on the school has not been as numerous, the improvement has been greater. Since the teacher withdrew, I have had the charge of the school until another teacher can be procured. There are enrolled, and have been in attendance more or less during the year, forty-four boys and fourteen girls—all full blood Indians. Seven white children belonging to the families under the direction of the government have also attended. The average attendance has been from twenty-five to thirty most of the time. Of those who attended, six have made proficiency in reading, writing, and arithmetic, four have been studying geography, four read books in the English and Indian languages, eight are spelling in the

English and Indian spelling books; twenty are spelling in the Indian only. I send herewith a list of the names of the scholars, their ages, and the proficiency of each noted. The school has been open during the year, except a week the last of December, and while the families were absent at their sugar camps. It was closed on the first of the present month, (September,) in order to get the use of some lumber from the old school-house to complete a new one now erecting.

Besides the regular school, I formed a writing class in the winter, for such as could not attend the school. They met one evening in the week at the mission-house. Regular preaching to the people has been kept up on Sabbath morning and evening, and on Wednesday evening. A Sabbath school has been held on Sabbath afternoon, attended chiefly by the adults. Visiting the sick, administering medicines, and giving them such counsel and instruction as I thought would promote their welfare, in addition to the foregoing, constitute the means employed for their improvement. As the result of these means, the following statement gives an imperfect view: eighteen can read their own language; ten more, adults, who have only attended the Sabbath school, are beginning to read. They are becoming more industrious, more cleanly, more sober; they are beginning to have good houses and furniture. As evidence of their industry, compared with former days, I would state: six years ago the site occupied by the village was a dense thicket. The village extends near a mile in length, containing some twenty log houses and some good log stables, belonging to the Indians. During that period, they have cleared and cultivated some 200 acres of new gardens, besides what additions were made to their old ones. Then, they seldom raised more than a scanty supply for their families; now, they raise and sell some hundreds of bushels of corn and potatoes. Comparing their improvements with those of some other bands, who have had teachers for years before these people began to emerge from savage life, they are deserving of commendation. Visiting a village this summer, the inhabitants of which have been highly commended for what they had accomplished, I was struck with the contrast. Not a building that I saw had any thing but a bark roof on. Here both of the chiefs have good houses, with shingle roofs. There are six other good houses belonging to the Indians, with shingle roofs. This has required much labor, and indicates a good degree of industry. This has been done while the paralyzing uncertainty whether they can remain here weighs constantly on their minds. In abstinence from beastly intemperance they are improving. Soon after I first came among them, they had a drinking frolic. Every man present but one was drunk, and threats were made against my life if I did not go away. The one was kept sober by our taking him away from the scene. The next frolic, I hired one of the chiefs to abstain and aid me in getting material for my house. Now, even when some go and bring liquor here, only a part can be induced to drink. The most of them would live here during the year and never taste or desire it; but when they go to their payment, meeting with their friends, their resolution is often overcome. We can number some twenty-five or thirty who have not drank any thing for three years past, to our knowledge. If drinking is discouraged, and they are properly encouraged to sobriety, we may hope to see a new generation of sober men and women growing up here.

A church has been organized, with which twenty of the native people are connected.

They are still anxiously inquiring if they will be permitted to purchase land here.

Fearing they may not, some have purchased, and others think of selecting and making purchases of the land now in market, that they may have a refuge to fly to if they cannot remain here. This does not appear to me to be for their best interests. Would it not be for their future welfare if they could receive land here in exchange for their portion of the fund due them when they give up their reservation, in the title held in trust for them? Would it not be for their good to have the laws to some extent brought to bear on them? Their own customs are often very oppressive. As an illustration, a little boy handling a gun accidently shot a child; the father made threats of vengeance unless large presents were given; and to save the life of the boy, the relatives had to make up a large present, consisting of a number of guns, and traps, and blankets.

Yours, respectfully,

P. DOUGHERTY.

Wm. A. Richmond, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

No. 40.

Ottowa Colony, *September* 30, 1846.

Sir: In compliance with your request, I herewith present the condition of the Ottowas, and the school established among them at this station.

To confine my remarks on the state and condition of the Ottowas connected with this station, I might relate to you some cases of encouragement. In consideration of the wise and benevolent policy which characterizes the government of the United States towards the Indians, and particularly my own concern for their welfare generally, I am induced to embrace them as a people in submitting my report. The habits of the Ottowas, I am constrained to confess, have not been bettered for the last ten years, with the exception of those who are connected with the mission stations; their degradation has increased annually. Upon the consummation of the treaty of 1836 with the Ottowa and Chippewa tribe, it was necessary for them (at least a part) to retire from the ceded country. My being the only teacher among the Ottowas, at that time, who was under the patronage of government, brought me under the fearful responsibility of advising them in their future course. On account of their universal prejudice to a removal to the country assigned them west of the Mississippi, I came to the conclusion, with the approbation of the foreign board of missions, to purchase land, and that each person hold the same by a deed. This plan has been followed by others, until I now have the satisfaction of seeing five or six stations exerting a healthful influence over those connected with the charge. That which is to be lamented is, that a majority of those east of the Mississippi are disconnected with missions, and are continually becoming more and more degraded. Ten years have already expired in which the government have appropriated funds for the civilization of the Ottowas; and only the same length of time in

future, and the stipulations of the treaty will be fulfilled. Since the time is now half expired, reason and philanthropy would dictate that we take into consideration what has been effected, and whether we have managed the affairs of Indian reform in the best possible manner. The plan of our operations has been as follows: I selected the very best timbered openings, and contiguous to which are large lakes which abound with a variety of fish, and much game near us, and withal surrounded mostly by a religious and industrious community of white people. The land is enclosed by a good fence, and each family has a comfortable log-dwelling, with a frame barn to secure their grain. Their secular advantages and privileges for the support of themselves and families, have been as good as their white neighbors. Notwithstanding our favorable location, and the privileges and advantages they derive from our labors, they are far behind that which is desirable in refined taste, improved manners, industrious habits, or in being consistent Christians. Our educated boys and girls are as destitute of a principle of excelling in good breeding and moral worth, and correct deportment, as those who never have received instruction. I attribute the cause of our little success with those of the educated to the denying them and their nation their wonted independence, which is so necessary for the salutary advancement and dignity of any people. In our civil code, we refuse them the privileges of American citizens. We have quenched their council-fires, and deny them an elective franchise. The educated youth have nothing to excite them to emulation; they cannot hold office of trust while others must make and execute laws for them. To elevate their character, one or two things must be done: either remove them west of the Mississippi, and give them the same independence with other prosperous tribes, or, for the last resort, secure to them the privileges of citizenship within the States. The greatest discouragement in our labors arises from the deterioration of the morals of our youth. They leave the school with no prospect of holding any honored station in society. They mingle with their countrymen, and are obliged to resume their old habits; and, having more knowledge than those who are less favored, they become more degraded. The result is, that education is despised, and useful knowledge is held in small repute by the untaught savage.

Since my last report, and during the fall and winter, I had much to discourage me in my labors on account of the prevalence of intemperance. In commencing operations in the spring, to the present, scarcely an instance of drunkenness. Each family was ambitious to excel his neighbor in cultivating the most extensive field. A greater variety of seed was cultivated, and now a greater increase of products than any year previous. One Indian raised about sixty bushels of good wheat; others, less quantity. They have all a supply of corn and potatoes. There is an evident improvement in agriculture, and an apparent disposition to increase their means of support.

School.—The winter school was kept as usual. The summer quarter commenced with new interest and satisfaction. Having received a part of a supply of books from the Ottowa press west of the Mississippi, I introduced the new system, particularly among the adults, of the syllabic plan, in their own language. The result has been pleasing to me and gratifying to those who attended. Before the close of the summer term three could read in the New Testament, and ten to fifteen in easy reading.

Between thirty and forty have received instruction. It is hoped that the interest now felt on the subject of education will not be easily obliterated. The plan was adopted among the Cherokees and other tribes with success, and I hope the plan may be adopted at each of the stations in your superintendency, to continue at least until each person may read the wonderful works of God in his own language.

Moral state.—I might state that the Indians have done well, and "are good;" but I recoil at the expression, when I know the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; and who can know it? They confess they are wicked, and that they have no goodness in themselves. Meetings have been sustained every Sabbath, and attended with interest.

I have visited the Huron band, residing at Notwa Sepee. They are decidedly in favor of temperance, and a religious life generally. Occasional visits have been made by itinerant preachers. We have been blessed with health the past year. We trust that the connexion of the goodness of God to us in temporal and spiritual things may lead us to unfeigned repentance.

I am, with respect, sincerely yours,

L. SLATER,
Superintendent and Teacher.

Hon. W. A. RICHMOND,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit.

No. 41.

OLD WING MISSION, *September* 10, 1846.

SIR: Agreeably to the regulations of the Department, I send you my annual report.

You have been informed of the fact that I spent a part of the last season on a journey to Vermont, my native State, for the health of my family. We had spent about six years of privation and trial away from friends and every improving association, and considered it our duty to make the journey, in order to recover our bodily health and refresh and invigorate our minds, that we might return to our work with renewed energy and interest. Such has been the consequence.

While east, we collected a small amount of clothing in Swanton, my native town, (about $30 worth,) and nearly the same in Enosburgh, Vermont, for the family of our chief; but, to the great grief of our mission, he died soon after our return, and did not enjoy the favor; but it has been faithfully put into the hands of his family, who were in indigent circumstances, and has been a great relief to them. The death of the chief, Oge-maire-mire, (Joseph Wakazoo,) was severely felt by all who had an interest in the welfare of the Indians. He was about seventy years of age—died suddenly, of a congestion of the lungs. Medical aid was obtained for him, but all to no purpose; and when he closed his eyes with the setting sun, on the 18th of last October, I almost felt that the doom of our mission was sealed. He was wise in council, noble in spirit, and upright in life. His advice was sought for, far and near, among his fellow red men, and he should be regarded as a benefactor of his race.

In his brother, Peter Wakazoo, who is now our acting chief, we hope we may have one who will equal the one we have lost.

I commenced school soon after my return last fall, and continued it till late in the spring, when the Indians went to the shore of Black lake, four miles from the school-house, where they still continue, and will till after payment. The number of scholars on my list is—

Males - - - - - - - -	23
Females - - - - - - - -	11
My own children - - - - - - -	3
Total - - - - - -	37

The course of instruction has been the same as last year—the alphabet, spelling, reading, writing, and singing, with the addition of ciphering, and something of geography. The attendance of the scholars has been more uniform, and their conduct and progress better than any former year.

I also taught a Sabbath school through the winter, which I think was very useful. Our meetings on the Sabbath have been kept up through the year, with very few unavoidable exceptions, and they have been decidedly interesting generally; and the effect of Gospel truth on the mind and heart is more obvious than formerly. The habits of the Indians during the past year, in relation to the use of ardent spirits, especially at home, have been very good. There have been some instances of drunkenness abroad, under the tempting influence of wicked white men, who, when they can find nothing else bad enough to do, will get an Indian drunk that they may rob him the easier. It is a curse to our land that there are such men in it; they are worse than the worst Indians, and need a house of correction for their benefit; but the prevalent and increasing feeling of our Indians is, that it is a bad business to drink whiskey.

During the year the farming interest has increased considerably; about 7,000 rails have been split, by the assistance of the farmer, and a portion of them laid up into fence. He has also, in company with the Indians, done a considerable amount of logging, ploughing, and harrowing; they have planted their corn and potatoes in rows, which makes the farming of several families look quite systematic and pretty. The crops are very good; the amount of corn will be greater than the colony will consume.

Now, in summing up the progress of the year, I may safely say that the advance has been in a higher ratio than any former one; but there are two important impediments which I must name: one is, the intrusions of the Catholic priest from the station at the Rapids, who went so far at one time as to come into our meeting during worship, and call out a part of my congregation, &c. The other is, the Indians living on the shore on Black lake (an unhealthy place) in hot weather. The evils resulting are these:

1st. Their children cannot be in school in the summer season.

2d. They are at a distance from their farms when it is very important they should be on them.

3d. I have no doubt it is the cause of quite all the sickness they experience.

The past month they have had a good deal of the fever and ague, and there have been a few deaths by dysentery; but I do not think the sick-

ness and deaths have more than equalled the white settlements. In this region, generally, they are becoming sensible of these evils, and manifest a strong determination to live permanently on their farms as soon as they can get their houses completed; so that I hope this evil will occasion its own remedy. I have no doubt but our colony location is decidedly a healthy one.

I will only add, that I have obtained a place for the two young men, Joseph and Mitchell, in the Kalamazoo branch of the Michigan university, under the kind patronage of a committee of the Kalamazoo presbytery, and the Marshall Congregational Association.

I remain, truly, your humble and obedient servant,

GEO. N. SMITH.

William A. Richmond, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit, Mich.

No. 42.

Baptist Mission House,
Sault Ste. Marie, September 25, 1846.

Sir: In presenting to you the eighteenth annual report of the mission under my charge, I beg leave to acknowledge the Divine goodness to us in the preservation of our lives, and in continuing to us, in the main, the blessings of health.

The laborers connected with this mission the past year are myself, Mrs. Bingham, Rev. James D. Cameron, Shegud, a native assistant, and Miss Susan A. Warren, who has been an assistant school teacher most part of the year.

Our school has been continued with regularity through the year, with our usual vacation of nine days, including two Sabbaths at the close of each quarter.

The number of pupils on our list has ranged from 26 to 43; the last two quarters numbering 39 and 41. The Rev. Mr. Cameron had a small school part of the time at Tikuamina, or Tequawmenang, last winter, in which he reported 20 in attendance, but not so many at any one time; children attended in the day time, and adults in the evening.

Our most forward scholars, reported some years past, have been dismissed; and so far as their vacancy has been supplied, it has been mostly with new beginners, or small scholars; and hence we have none as forward as several of them were. The common elementary branches, however, have been taught—reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography; but no English grammar the last two quarters. Their progress has been tolerably good; better the last three than the previous year.

We had eleven boarding scholars through the winter, and until the last of April, since which three have left. One was a mixed blood youth, who was taken when between nine and ten years of age, and, on leaving the mission at 21, entered a store as a clerk in a respectable establishment in our place; and, so far as my knowledge on the subject has extended, has given good satisfaction. The other two were full-blood Indians, and both had given evidence of having become pious while attached to the mission, and were members of the mission church. One was a young man,

probably 21 or rising, when he entered the mission; can now read the New Testament decently in Indian, and passably in English, and has acquired considerable knowledge of common business. He has spent the summer under Professor Marther in the exploring business in the mineral country. The other is a female, who, through the urgency of her relations, returned to live with them.

Of the eight remaining beneficiaries, six are girls, and two boys; not more than one over twelve years old, and from that down to about seven. Our boarding scholars can all read decently in the Scriptures; so that they read with us in our family devotions morning and evening.

A Sabbath school has been maintained through the year, in which the pupils have received general instruction from the Scriptures, and have committed portions of the inspired word to memory, which has ever proved to be excellent employment for their Sabbath hours not spent in public worship. Our religious services with the Indians at the station were intercepted for about four months during the year, for want of an interpreter suitably qualified; but when I have visited them at their locations, one has been at hand. Moreover, the Rev. Mr. Cameron has been stationed at Tequawmenang the past season, and has held regular Christian worship with the Indians there; and five have publicly professed Christianity during the year. Religious worship has also been regularly maintained at the station through the year, but only with the white population when I had no interpreter for the Indians.

Those who have professed Christianity have generally maintained their Christian profession; and probably as few defections have been found among them as in our Christian churches among the white people, who are capable of reading the Scriptures for themselves.

Our Indians are evidently improving in civilization, industry, and business. Four young men connected with our mission have, since the opening of navigation, put up, brought to this place, and sold 105 barrels of fish, and have made preparations to enlarge business during the fall fishing; and most of the Indians among us who are under any considerable influence of the missionaries are engaged in that or some other business that will afford a comfortable living.

In the month of June, I visited White Fish point, where those young men were taking fish, and could not fail of noticing their industry. They appeared as industrious and perseveringly engaged in their business as American farmers do in times of haying and harvest, and yet they could find time to attend religious meetings in the evenings. They are strict in observing the Sabbath, and faithful in attending to the common duties of religion.

At Tequawmenang bay their gardens look well, and some of the families have raised a large supply of potatoes, of an excellent quality; and have also corn, pumpkins, squashes, beats, turnips, &c. One family obtained a cow last fall, which they kept in fine order through the winter, and took her and her calf to their fishery with them in the spring, which added much to their comfort. I noticed in their bark lodge a milk shelf filled up with pans of milk, and found that the women made a good supply of butter, and of a good quality. I was also much pleased to see her set before her children a dish of bread and milk, which in my view seemed more to resemble the habits of a New England farmer, than of an Indian of the forest. These small beginnings intimate what a state of civilization they

might shortly be brought to, had we the means at hand of setting them down on land in their native climate that they could feel might permanently be their home.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Superintendent Baptist Mission.

To JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Sub-agent, Indian Agency.

No. 43.

SAULT STE. MARIE, *August* 28, 1846.

SIR: In accordance with the instructions of the Department, I have the honor to make the following report of the state of the missions of the Methodist Episcopal church under my superintendence:

Sault Ste. Marie.—The state of things at this station has not materially altered since my last report. There has been a new frame barn built, which is well filled with hay and grain; there is in charge of the mission one pair of horses, one wagon, and eight head of horned cattle, together with the ordinary farming tools. The school has been kept in regular operation with the exception of a vacation of about three weeks at the season of sugar-making. The whole number in school has been 24, with an average of about 18. There are at present but four children that board in the mission family; there have, however, been more until recently, and it is presumed that others will be received soon.

Kewawenon.—The missionary at this station has been indefatigable in his efforts to do the Indians good. There are four head of cattle belonging to the mission, together with the ordinary farming tools, all of which have been used to good purpose. The whole number of children in the school has been 28—boys, 15; girls, 13—with an average of about 18, except during the time of sugar-making, when there are not quite so many.

Fond-du-Lac.—The beneficial effects of the labors bestowed upon the people of this station begin also to be clearly seen. Their gardens have been considerably enlarged, and at the time of my visit to them, in July, looked remarkably promising. The school has been in progress during the year, and a part of the time the attendance has been good and the progress commendable; but, as the people are not yet altogether local in their habits, it is not always easy to keep the children as regularly in school as they ought to be. I think there is reason to hope that the condition of these people, especially the rising generation, will continue to improve physically, mentally, and morally.

Sandy lake.—I have not been able to visit this remote inland station during this year; but I learn from the missionary that he has taught school as regularly as the children could be made to attend; many of whom are kept from school, especially during the winter season, for want of comfortable clothing. This is very much to be regretted; but I hope the time is not distant when their own improved economy, aided by Christian liberality, shall enable every child in the tribe, clothed and comfortable, to attend at the place where their mental and moral wants shall

be regularly attended to. In conclusion, I would remark that, though there are difficulties and discouragements connected with missionary and educational operations among these people, (the principal of which, in one way or other, grew out of the nefarious whiskey trade,) yet, in dependence upon Him who has said "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," we are determined to hold on to the even tenor of our way, believing that diligence and perseverance will yet accomplish the desired object of bringing them from their state of mental and moral darkness to a state of mental illumination and religious enjoyment.

All which is respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, as ever, yours truly,

W. H. BROCKWAY,

Superintendent of Missions, Michigan Conference.

To James Ord, Esq.,

Indian Sub-agent, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

No. 44.

Choctaw Agency, *October* 20, 1846.

Sir: The subject of education is daily attracting increased attention among the southwestern Indians. This has been more particularly the case since the Choctaws set the example of voluntary contribution, by devoting to that object $18,000 of the annuities paid them distributively. The idea of creating schools themselves, in their own country, under their own control and supervision, has had great effect upon the adjoining tribes, inducing some of them to take decided steps of a like nature. To what extent this spirit prevails in this superintendency, the reports transmitted a short time since from the different agents will enable you to judge. Others, herewith submitted, relate exclusively to the Choctaw schools. You will find in them full accounts of the number of pupils, branches taught, method of instruction, general system pursued, &c.

Notwithstanding the details are minute, the progress made cannot well be estimated. The reports state the quantity read or studied, and the other modes of employment; but do not, and cannot, show the actual advancement. The children are improved rather in their habits than in what they learn from books. The greater part of them, brought up in ignorance and idleness, strangers to any kind of restraint, when they enter school begin an entirely new life. They are subjected to wholesome discipline, acquire habits of industry and cleanliness, learn the value of time, exercise their mental faculties, and, what is after all the main point, (for it involves the chief distinction between savage and civilized races in most, if not all the Choctaw schools,) great pains are taken to instil correct principles, and to impress upon the minds of the pupils proper ideas of the obligations of duty. To what extent benefits result in these various particulars, no adequate idea can be formed from any report, nor in any other way than by the personal observation in individual instances of teachers or friends. Others can only judge by the general effect after the lapse of years.

The Choctaws have three academies and some smaller schools for boys, and five female seminaries. The management is intrusted to the Presby-

terian, Baptist, and Methodist societies. In thus dividing their schools among different denominations, they have shown a commendable degree of liberality.

The Presbyterian missionaries were the first to visit the Choctaw country; have been a long while in it; and as they are, for the most part, men of elevated character, leading exemplary lives, laboring faithfully not only as preachers, but also as instructors and physicians, they have acquired the confidence of the Choctaws, who are very naturally, under all the circumstances, inclined to give them the preference.

The entire school fund is expended under the control of the different societies. They appoint the superintendents and teachers, and make a liberal additional appropriation for each school. It is therefore their interest as well as their duty to scrutinize closely the expenditures of their agents. Reports of their operations are made annually to the Choctaw council, which has the right to terminate at any time the existing connexion. The duty of inspecting the schools and ascertaining their condition is assigned by the council to five trustees; four of them native Choctaws; myself the fifth. The trustees also select the pupils.

Attached to each of the male academies is a farm, cultivated mainly by the boys. Corn enough to supply their wants has been raised during the past year. Their instruction in the school-room so far has been chiefly confined to the simple and more elementary branches of an ordinary common school education. The female schools deserve particular notice. The superintendents are generally men of experience and ability, devoted to the cause they are engaged in. Some of the ladies employed as teachers are highly qualified, and have been very successful. After school hours the girls are instructed in sewing, knitting, ornamental needlework, &c., and are divided into classes, performing by turns the duties of the household and the dairy. The system adopted is, in my opinion, well calculated to prepare females for usefulness in after life. A striking proof that it works well is found in the increasing disposition among all classes, especially the full-blooded Indians, heretofore indifferent on the subject, to secure its benefits for their daughters.

Notwithstanding the school fund is comparatively large, it is insufficient for the wants of more than one-tenth of the Choctaw children. The consequence is, that the number of applicants always greatly exceeds the number that can be received in the schools. The duty of selection therefore becomes exceedingly delicate. The trustees often find it difficult to refuse pressing solicitations for the admission of persons beyond the proper age. Many of the students at this time in the different institutions were, when they first entered, altogether too old to derive the advantages which otherwise might reasonably be expected from the outlay. Under the most favorable circumstances, the obstacles in the way of educating Indian children are considerable. In most cases they know nothing of English. Their associations at home are not of a kind to stimulate or awaken their powers of thought. Their minds are in a state of apathy. A long time must necessarily elapse before they learn to think in another language, or to comprehend matters which other children, brought up under more favorable auspices, are familiar with at a much earlier age, and before they have even seen a school. It is obvious that to overcome these difficulties, instruction should commence at the earliest practicable period. If no beginning is made until after the habits are

fixed and the character is formed, the efforts to improve are likely to result in disappointment.

The reports of the agent and of the different superintendents exhibit the state of the schools among the Cherokees. This tribe, with a larger average of intelligence than can be found in any other, has, from various causes, done very little in the way of education during the last few years. Their internal difficulties adjusted, they will doubtless make a more judicious application of their means in furthering this great object.

The Creeks, more opposed in former times to instruction and innovation of all kinds than any other Indians, are rapidly changing for the better. At their own request, provisions were made in the treaty of 1845 for the support of two manual labor schools; one to be located on the Arkansas, the other on the Canadian. I have received several communications from the chiefs urging that these schools be put in operation as soon as possible. The Rev. Mr. Loughridge, a missionary of the Presbyterian board, who has been laboring among them many years, has made a very favorable impression. They wish him to take charge of the school in the Arkansas district. No superintendent has been selected for the other, but arrangements are in progress which it is hoped will enable both establishments, before long, to receive students.

The Chickasaws are better able to provide for the instruction of their children than any other tribe in the superintendency, and I understand, at a late meeting of their council, made a liberal appropriation for the purpose. They had previously submitted to the Department the plan of an institution on the manual labor system, which has been substantially approved. The Methodist society has undertaken the management, and selected the Rev. Mr. Browning, a gentleman possessing the requisite qualifications in a high degree, for the superintendent. As this school progresses, others will doubtless be established. The ample means of the Chickasaws certainly cannot be more advantageously expended.

There is one school in the Neosho sub-agency. The report of the teacher will show its condition.

For further information I must refer you to the statement of the different teachers. I regret exceedingly that the pressing nature of other official duties has prevented me from giving more attention to the various schools in the superintendency, but hope hereafter that personal observation will enable me to speak more fully of their condition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent.

Hon. W. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

No. 45.

ARMSTRONG ACADEMY, *September* 1, 1845.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I herewith transmit a report of this institution for the past year.

The institution is located two miles south of the road leading from Fort Towson to Fort Washita, fifty-five miles west of the former and thirty

east of the latter. It is near the dividing ridge of the waters of Boggy and Blue rivers, and twenty miles northwest of the nearest point of Red river. The country around is the best quality of upland, and will admit of a dense population.

In consequence of the failure of the contractor to complete the buildings agreeably to contract, the school did not go into operation until the 2d of December, 1845. The number of scholars expected was 35; but 33 were sent, and during the latter part of session but 30 attended, some having run away, and others returned home in consequence of sickness.

On the 1st of November last, the American Indian Mission Association (under whose direction this institution is placed) appointed the Rev. P. P. Brown as teacher, and Mr. H. W. Jones as farmer, with Mrs. Brown and Miss Chenoweth to assist in the domestic affairs of the institution. From various causes they did not arrive here until the 10th of February, since which time they have been engaged in their different spheres of labor. Previous to the arrival of this reinforcement the whole labor of the institution devolved upon me, in addition to teaching the school. I could not pay that attention to every separate department of labor which each demanded. Since the arrival of these missionaries, each one has labored in his or her appropriate department, and, we have reason to believe, not in vain.

The boys, when not engaged in school, have devoted the time allotted to work in clearing land and cultivating the farm. The following is the result of their labors:

They have cleared about 10 acres of land, and made a part of the rails to fence it. We had, previous to this, a field of 40 acres in cultivation. Ten acres have been added to this, part timber and part prairie. This field of 50 acres has been cultivated in corn by them, in addition to a garden and three acres of sweet potatoes. The crop has been well attended to: and should nothing befall it, I think we shall make a sufficiency of corn, peas, beans, pumpkins, and turnips, for our consumption. Hay and fodder for our stock have been secured partly by the students. The time devoted each day to labor has been about 2 or 2½ hours.

I have recently had a horse mill completed for the use of the institution, which will add materially to our benefit.

Every day's experience goes to strengthen me in the belief that schools conducted upon the manual labor system are the only ones that will eventually benefit the Indians much. There is an aversion to labor on the part of many, and complaints are sometimes made that the children labor too much. You are well aware that in every age, among enlightened or unenlightened nations, idleness has always been one of the most fruitful sources of vice. Hence the necessity of instilling into the youthful mind habits of industry, if they would be virtuous and useful members of society; and I am happy to say that some at least of our pupils seem to appreciate our instructions on this subject, by their willingness to do whatever they are required.

On the 27th of July, a public examination of the school took place, in presence of Captain Robert M. Jones, trustee, Colonel Silas D. Fisher, chief, and other influential men of the district, with which they manifested much satisfaction.

I am well aware that no institution for youth can prosper that is not conducted upon religious principles, and our attention has been directed

to imparting such instruction to these youth, the beneficial effects of which have been apparent in some of them. Six of them have made a public profession of religion during the past session. In addition to this, the evils of intemperance have been set before them, and twenty-eight of them have signed the temperance pledge.

Enclosed is also the report of Rev. P. P. Brown, teacher, which will fully explain to you the progress of the pupils of this institution.

All of which is respectfully submitted, by

Yours, sincerely,

RAMSEY D. POTTS,
Superintendent of Armstrong Academy.

Capt. Wm. Armstrong,
Agent for Choctaws.

No. 46.

Armstrong Academy, *September* 1, 1846.

Sir: In accordance with the wishes of the superintendent, I send you a report of the progress and present situation of the pupils in the literary department of this institution.

Of those composing the number present at the annual examination—
18 commenced in the alphabet,
4 do two letters,
4 do easy reading,
3 do First Reader, McGuffey's,
2 do Second Reader, McGuffey's.

All have been engaged principally in reading and spelling.

Of those who commenced in the alphabet—
1 reads in the Second Reader,
6 read in the First Reader,
5 read in easy reading, in Elementary Spelling Book;
4 have just commenced easy reading,
2 do do words of two and three letters.

Of those commencing in two letters—
1 reads in the Second Reader,
1 do First Reader,
2 read in easy reading.

Those commencing in easy reading read in First Reader.
Do in First Reader read in Second Reader,
Do in Second Reader read in Third Reader, and study Olney's Geography.

22 have learned to write.

19, since the first of June, have studied Emerson's First Part North American Arithmetic.

Twenty of our number are full-blood Choctaws. The others are mixed more or less with white blood.

REMARKS.

You will see, by the above schedule, the different degrees of progress the pupils have made in turning over leaves and passing through books.

I do not consider this a correct method of ascertaining the advancement of any school, and especially among the Indians.

Some pupils of sprightly talents are frequently pushed through a book with locomotive speed, as if knowledge were measured only by the number of pages passed over, and the advance in learning calculated by the rapidity with which books are turned off. They receive the praises of doating parents, and the flatteries of admiring friends, as prodigies of learning, when really their actual advance in knowledge is quite limited.

Others, with searching minds, by plodding perseverance, although they thumb but a few pages, and are looked upon as possessing but ordinary capacities, are laying the foundation for a rich store of knowledge, and, in point of actual improvement, are in advance of the former.

Among our Indian schools, a much stronger proof presents itself of the incorrectness of this method of reporting.

Some pupils understand English from the start, and are able to progress rapidly and understandingly.

Others are wholly unacquainted with it; and, with minds utter strangers to discipline, rude and uncultivated as their own native forests, destitute of the advantages of previous study, commence the study of a language different from their own tongue in its style, mode of expression, intonation, and construction; and with no help from grammars and lexicons, but dependent upon the oral instructions of teachers generally unacquainted with the Indian tongue.

In the one case, the pupil has but the orthography and orthœpy of the language to learn; the construction, the intonations, and the mode of expression, he has learned from his mother's lips, and been trained to it, long before he knew what was in a book, or what a book was for.

In the other, he has not only the spelling and the pronunciation to learn, but the meaning of every word, the method of putting words together to form a correct and intelligible sentence, and the manner of expressing sentences, in order to convey the correct meaning.

The books, also, in use for white children, or those understanding English, are not adapted to the wants of Indian children. They are generally sufficiently simple at the beginning, but advance too rapidly; making it necessary for the pupil to read and re-read, and the teacher to repeat his explanation again and again, before the pupil fully understands it.

Can, then, the actual relative improvement of the two be estimated by the number of leaves each has studied?

At the commencement of our school, twenty-two spoke the Choctaw language, knowing nothing of English; and a portion of those who did understand it spoke it but imperfectly.

Believing that the use of English, as the means of intercourse, not only in school hours but at all times, stood first in importance at the commencement of their education, our efforts on the part of those unacquainted with the language have been almost entirely directed to the attainment of that object.

To secure such a result of our labors, we very well knew that positive rules forbidding the use of Choctaw, although effectual while the pupils were in our presence, would not be when an opportunity for infringement, without discovery, presented itself. And, further, such rules would encourage trickery, and foster a deceitful disposition, so destructive to the

morals and future good of those for whose benefit these schools were instituted.

We therefore endeavored to enlist their efforts in favor of the change, keeping constantly before their minds the advantage to be derived from it, and the necessity of their being interested in it; and we are truly happy to report, "success has crowned our efforts."

Some have advanced very slowly, and with great difficulty, but with unyielding perseverance; and so great has been their desire to learn the English, and bring the Choctaw into disuse, that they would prefer to remain silent when their knowledge of English was too limited to express themselves intelligibly, rather than use Choctaw. And not only has the English language become the means of intercourse between teacher and pupil, but also between the pupils themselves; not only in school, but in the field, on the play ground, and in their rooms.

We conceive the success of these efforts will be attended with much benefit to these untutored "sons of the forest." For not only does it open the fountain of knowledge, where the soul can satisfy the ardent desire, the burning thirst, which a sip at its sweet waters creates, but it clearly demonstrates the falsity of the belief, so prevalent among their more enlightened white neighbors, that the Indian loves only the chase and the battle field; that he delights only in scenes of blood and the carnage of savage warfare; that his soul is dead and his ear deaf to the soft strains with which science would woo him into her paths; that his eye sees no beauty in the walks of literature; that there can be no delight to him in turning over the musty pages of by-gone times, in delving for the hidden truths of philosophy, and searching out the deep things of God.

I rejoice that the light of science is dawning upon his darkened mind; that he is burying the tomahawk and scalping knife beneath the tree of liberty, and smoking the pipe of eternal peace with all his brethren.

The schools now established in this nation can do much; and, I trust, with the blessing of the Giver of all Good, will elevate this people to a standing equal to the most favored nations on earth.

Yours, respectfully,

P. P. BROWN.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
United States Agent for the Choctaws.

No. 47.

WHEELOCK, *September* 29, 1846.

DEAR SIR: I now send you the annual report of the female school at Wheelock for the year ending July, 1846, and also the report of the Norwalk school for boys for the same time.

WHEELOCK FEMALE SCHOOL.

The whole number of pupils the last year has been 50; average attendance 46; whole number boarded, 37; on the appropriation, 24. Of the 13 boarded, not on the appropriation, 8 have paid board, 2 have had board for assistance rendered in the family, 2 have been supported by the mission, and 1 by benevolent friends in the State of Mississippi.

The school is in two divisions, each division having its own teacher.

Primary department.—Miss Tracy continued to have the instruction of this department till March, when declining health made it necessary for her, though reluctantly, to give up the school and return to her friends in Connecticut. She was diligent, efficient, and successful as a teacher, and much beloved by her pupils and the Choctaws as far as she was known. She was succeeded by Miss M. Cotton, from Massachusetts.

In this department the whole number of pupils has been 28; average attendance, 24: 11 are new beginners, having entered the school within the last year, and 5 of these are on the appropriation.

The books used are the Testament, Child's Guide, Common School Primer, Webster's and Gallaudet's spelling books, Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic, Parley's Geography, Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, Watts's smaller catechism, and Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible. In using the spelling book, the sounds of the letters, the figures designating the sounds of the vowels, the characters used in writing, the abbreviations, &c., have been committed to memory by all the more advanced pupils.

Arithmetic.—16 have committed to memory the arithmetical tables of weights, measures, &c.; 12 have studied Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic.

Geography.—16 have studied Parley's Geography; 12 to the 33d lesson, and 4 to the 21st lesson.

Natural Philosophy.—12 have studied Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, 1st part.

Catechism.—20 have committed to memory Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible. 12 attend to writing.

Higher department.

Miss Dolbeare continues the efficient teacher of this department. Whole number of pupils, 22; on the appropriation, 12.

Books used.—Gallaudet's and Town's spelling books, with the defining of words; Bible, Easy Reader, Intelligent Reader, Gallaudet's Natural Theology, Smith's Arithmetic, Smith's Geography, Smith's Grammar, Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, Comstock's Youth's Book on Astronomy, and Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible.

Arithmetic.—4 have studied and reviewed Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic; 18 have studied Smith's Arithmetic: 5 through the ground rules, 13 through vulgar fractions, and 2 through interest and equation of payments.

Geography.—4 have studied and reviewed Parley's Geography; 9 have studied and reviewed Smith's Geography: 4 have gone to the 245th page, and 5 to the 100th page.

Natural Philosophy.—22 have studied and reviewed Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, 1st part; 5 have gone to the 96th page, 2d part; and 4 to the 68th page, 2d part.

Grammar.—5 have gone through with Smith's Grammar; 4 to the 80th page, and 4 to the 26th page. All those in grammar attend to parsing, and the more advanced to the correcting of ungrammatical English.

Astronomy.—9 have studied Comstock's Youth's Book on Astronomy.

All in this department have learned Emerson's Historical Catechism of the Bible, and all spend a portion of time every day in writing.

In both departments the Bible is made a daily study; and, at the opening of the school in the morning by the teacher, all that can read are required to recite a verse from that Holy Book.

From five to five and a half hours daily are devoted to recitations of the various exercises of the school-room. The afternoons of each day are devoted to work, as knitting, netting, and needlework, plain and ornamental. The girls, when out of school, are also required to take part in the domestic employments of the family; and for this purpose are divided into companies, each division taking its turn in rotation.

NORWALK SCHOOL.

This school is located about five miles west by north from Wheelock. Connected with the station are C. C. Copeland, steward, and Mrs. Copeland; H. Pitkin, teacher, and Miss M. Cotton, assistant in the family.

The school went into operation, under the appropriation, in February last. The whole number of pupils has been 32; average attendance, 25. Whole number boarded, 21. Of these, 14 are on the appropriation, 6 have paid board, and one has been supported by the mission. Most of those on the appropriation are beginners, and quite young; but their proficiency has been highly satisfactory. Eight on the appropriation begun with the alphabet, and have been through and thoroughly reviewed the Common School Primer, and committed to memory a variety of useful and interesting matter; 5 have been through with Emerson's Mental Arithmetic, 3 have begun the 2d book of Emerson, 3 have begun Smith's Arithmetic, and are well acquainted with the ground rules and with federal money; 12 have commenced Swift's First Lessons in Natural Philosophy, and one is studying Olney's Geography.

Singing is made a daily exercise in the school. Besides daily singing, three hours in each week are spent in learning, reciting, and practising the first lessons in music. The Bible in this, as well as in the Wheelock school, is a daily study. The teacher has been indefatigable and highly successful in bringing forward his pupils.

The means for the literary and religious improvement of the Choctaws have been increased during the past year. The four Gospels have been printed in the Choctaw language and circulated among the people. Several religious tracts have also been published, and the Choctaw arithmetic and spelling book have been reprinted. The Sabbath schools connected with the station have been sustained with unabated interest.

The Gospel is still the wisdom and power of God unto salvation to many: 64 have, since the last report, been received into the church at Wheelock, and publicly professed their faith in Christ. Two natives have been licensed to preach the everlasting Gospels, and two more are studying, under the care of the presbytery, for the ministry. There are, in connexion with this station, nine places for preaching, the farthest of which is sixty miles distant. At five of these places public worship is kept up statedly on the Sabbath, and occasionally at the others. In the absence of the pastor, the religious exercises are conducted by the licentiates and elders of the church. A review of the past year shows us what sense of gratitude we have for what the Lord has already accomplished among this people, and encourages us to prosecute our labors with unremitting zeal.

Respectfully and affectionately,

ALFRED WRIGHT.

To Major Wm. Armstrong,
Acting Superintendent, W. T.

No. 48.

GOOD WATER, C. N., *August* 22, 1846.

DEAR SIR: I herewith transmit to you a report of the Koonsher Female Seminary for the year ending July 24, 1846. At our examination we had fifty-two scholars; forty-four were boarders, and eight were day scholars, boarded by their parents. The school was arranged in the following order, viz:

In Miss C. L. Downer's department there were twenty-six.

1st class, 9.—This class went through with Mitchell's Geography and Murray's Grammar: in arithmetic, to compound interest. Attended to reading, spelling, and writing. Memorized daily in the Definer and Scriptures.

2d class, 9.—This class studied geography, arithmetic, reading, spelling, and writing, and memorized Scripture daily.

3d class, 7.—Philosophy, geography, arithmetic tables, reading, spelling, and memorized Scripture.

4th class, 1.—Reading and spelling.

26

In Miss C. M. Belden's department there were twenty-six.

1st class, 12.—This class in arithmetic; Emerson's First Lessons, entire; attended some to geography; stops and marks; abbreviations; reading and spelling, and memorized Scripture daily.

2d class, 5.—Emerson's First Lessons; abbreviations; stops and marks; reading, spelling, and Scripture, daily.

3d class, 9.—Reading and spelling.

26

Thirty have been boarded through the whole term. Fourteen were selected to come on the 1st of October; but all did not get in at that time, and one not till March. All but one of the first selection learned to read in the Testament, and some of them very well. One of the older girls was taken away by her parents, and her place was filled by one quite small. One was exchanged by the commissioners. Forty-four was the number designed for this school as regular boarders. By putting up a house 26 feet by 18, in addition to what we had before, we have ample accommodations for them all, as regards working, lodging, &c.

The commissioners, together with the two chiefs, Col. Leflore and Col. Fisher, expressed their entire satisfaction with the advancement of the scholars since the last examination; and also of the buildings. The parents of the children present expressed themselves as highly pleased with the performance of their children. It is well-merited praise to say, that our teachers have spared no pains to advance and improve their pupils.

A Sabbath school has been sustained during the whole session, and the progress made in acquiring the knowledge of the doctrines and duties taught in the Bible has been good. Twenty-four of our scholars are professors of religion; and, if we judge the tree by its fruit, I am happy to say that their conduct so far accords with their profession. We have rea-

son to believe that God has bestowed his best of blessings on us and this vicinity during the past year. Nothing but the Holy Spirit could effect such changes as have been effected. Family altars have been erected, where the morning and evening prayer ascends to God. Persons of all ages have turned from a course of intemperance, idleness, folly, and sin, and are now clothed in their right minds, and are now, by precept and example, supporting the institutions of the Gospel. For this blessing we cannot be too thankful. Since this church was established, in April last, there have been 51 members added to it. For spreading the Gospel, we have raised more than $100; for building a church, more than $400. We have the materials for a framed house 42 by 32 feet, all, or nearly all, on the ground. We know that God in a peculiar manner blessed the pilgrims when they landed at Plymouth, and it is affirmed for a fact that they first built school-houses, then churches, then their own dwellings.

There has been quite an advance in farming this year; crops of all kinds look well, and better than I have ever seen them before. *Temperance* is gaining ground; and in several Saturday and Sabbath schools in this vicinity quite a number of adults and children have learned to read their own language.

Respectfully and affectionately yours,

E. HOTCHKIN,
Superintendent of K. F. Seminary.

Major WM. ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Choctaw Agency.

No. 49.

PINE RIDGE, CHOCTAW NATION,
September 30, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In making another annual report of the Chu-ah-la Female Seminary, I would gratefully acknowledge the kind providence of God in preserving the lives of all connected with the station, and in granting to us such a measure of health as that we have been able, without interruption, to prosecute our various labors.

In the seminary we have but one session a year; most of our pupils live at such a distance that we cannot enjoy the benefit of a short recess in the spring, as is the case at some of the other schools. The term commenced on the 1st of October, 1845, and closed on the 15th of July, 1846.

Miss Harriet Golding, from Ware, Massachusetts, took charge of the school about the 1st of January last. The number of scholars has been thirty-five, whose attendance has generally been regular. Thirty boarded at the seminary, and five boarded at home. Of the thirty boarded at the seminary, twenty-four were on the appropriation; the board of three was paid by their parents, and three were boarded for the labor they performed when out of school.

9 studied practical arithmetic;
18 do mental arithmetic;
12 do Morse's Geography;
9 do Parley's Geography;
7 do English grammar;
1 do History of the United States;
20 wrote.

With the exception of four, all could read in the Testament and other reading books.

Much labor has been bestowed on the school by Miss Golding since she took charge of it; and I am happy to have it to say that the fruits of this labor, in the improvement of the pupils, have been very gratifying. Much has been done, by familiar questions and answers, to give the pupils an understanding of their studies, and of what they read.

The examination at the close of the term was attended by the trustees of the schools, by the chief of the district, and by a large number of the parents of the children, and other friends. All appeared gratified with the improvement that had been made.

Out of school, the girls have been divided into companies. Each company, alternately, a week at a time, has labored with Mrs. Kingsbury in the kitchen and dining-room. When not thus employed, they have, under the direction of Miss Dickenson, been engaged in sewing, knitting, &c., and in making various articles of fancy work. Their improvement in industry has been very commendable.

A Sunday school has been taught at the seminary, which all the pupils boarding with us have attended. In this school special pains have been taken to make the pupils acquainted with the Christian Scriptures, and to impress on their minds the importance of obeying the Divine commands.

My labors in preaching the Gospel have been continued the past year much as heretofore. There are five churches, the members of which are scattered over the country, from Fort Towson to the Washita, to which I preach and administer the Christian ordinances. To these churches there have been added, the past year, fifty-four members, viz:

To the Pine Ridge church	29
To the Mahew do	6
To the Mount Pleasant church	12
To the Chickasaw do	5
To the Six Town do	2
Total	54

The *whole number* of members in the above churches is about 280.

Several native Sunday schools have been taught within the bounds of my labors, which I have aided by supplying books, &c.; but the number of learners in these schools I am not able, at this time, to give.

A commodious framed school-house, 36 feet by 24, with a piazza on each side, and of a good height, and well lighted, has been built for the Chu-ah-la Female Seminary. It will be ready to be occupied at the commencement of the ensuing term.

Respectfully, yours,

C. KINGSBURY,

Superintendent of Chu-ah-la Female Seminary.

Major Wm. Armstrong,

Superintendent, Western Territory.

No. 50.

SPENCER ACADEMY, *October* 6, 1846.

DEAR SIR: Important changes have, as you are aware, taken place in the management of this institution during the last year. At the meeting of the last general council it was deemed expedient, in order to secure the greater efficiency of this institution, that the entire control of it be transferred to the board of foreign missions of the Presbyterian church. This offer was made to that board without any solicitation whatever on its part; thus affording a very gratifying evidence of the nation's confidence in those who are conducting missionary operations, and their enlightened views as to the propriety of having their institutions placed under religious influence, as also of the happy results of previous missionary labors among them, which have won their confidence, and formed these views. The board, though pressed with calls from various quarters, felt that this was one of too much importance and interest to be neglected, and accordingly accepted of the institution, on the conditions proposed by the council, and immediately prepared to take actual charge of it. Owing to unavoidable delays, they could not get a superintendent on the ground until the end of May. I then arrived; and, on the first of June, the whole affairs of the institution were transferred to my hands by Mr. Reuben Wright, the former acting superintendent. The principal teacher, Mr. Wilson, having very unexpectedly, both to the board and to myself, resigned his office, left immediately on my arrival. This threw us into considerable embarrassment, as it was impossible to procure a teacher in his place under some months at least. However, by the assistance of Mr. Wright, we were enabled to go through the remaining six weeks of the term more successfully and profitably than was anticipated. The examination at the close did credit to both teachers and pupils, I believe, in the estimation of the trustees and other gentlemen who attended it. The number of pupils on the first of June was 98.

The financial concerns of the institution have also been such as to greatly embarrass our operations. My first inquiry was after the accounts, in order that I might be able to ascertain the precise state of the funds. I soon found, however, that no accounts had been kept there that would enable me to learn any thing with certainty concerning this; and, though I was told it was in debt, it was not until after much inquiry, and the lapse of nearly three months, that I learned the extent of that debt. Indeed, I am not certain *now* that I know it. So far, however, as I have been able to ascertain it, the following is a brief statement of the financial affairs of the institution on the first of June, when I took charge of it:

There had expired 11 months of the financial year; expenditures of these 11 months, so far as I have been able to ascertain - - - - - - - -	$10,333 50
Income for the same period, at $8,000 per annum - -	7,333 33
Actual debt on the 1st June, 1846 - - - - -	3,000 17

There was on hand a small supply of provisions and some clothing, which might be considered as a small offset to this debt. An inventory of these was taken at the time; but I have not, at present, the means of estimating the value of the clothing on hand; and, indeed, it will not relieve the board from their present embarrassment in the least, as, being ig-

norant of this, they had already purchased clothing for the coming year.

They will have to incur considerable expense, also, in furnishing bedding, room-furniture, table ware, and farming utensils; most of which have been nearly worn out or destroyed. Some of the buildings need considerable repairs. A new school-house is very much needed; and several smaller, though not less important improvements, are also required, which will demand a considerable expenditure. These, however, must be delayed, until sufficient funds come into our hands for this purpose. For the good of the institution, they should not be delayed a single day.

As yet, the board have received no portion of the appropriation. They have not only advanced two thousand dollars, the whole of their appropriation, but above two thousand more; and still further advances must be made before any of the funds of the institution can come into their hands, which, I suppose will not be till the first of January next. This has been very embarrassing to the board, who did not anticipate any such delay in the funds of the institution being paid over to their hands. It is also an unfavorable circumstance that the expenses are always in advance of the appropriation. In conducting an institution like this, it is a great advantage to have its funds in advance. As it is at present, they must be always expended before they are received. I know, however, of no way, at present, to meet this difficulty. Still, however, the board feel that Spencer Academy is an institution which gives promise of such extensive usefulness to this rising people, that they are willing to encounter some difficulties, in order to give it full efficiency. It is an institution which reflects great honor on the nation, and all who had any share in founding it—in which I believe you had a prominent part. And I trust you will yet see your exertions greatly rewarded, in the abundance and extent of the blessings which it will hereafter be the instrument of conferring on this nation, whose interests you have so long been watching over.

Our helpers have not yet come on. We need very much a steward and farmer in addition to our present force, and these we expect as soon as the board can find the right kind of men. Mr. Oliver P. Stark, a graduate of Princeton, who has been appointed principal teacher, arrived a few days since; and, with the aid of proper assistants, we entertain the most sanguine hopes in regard to the progress of the students; and we look forward to the time when Spencer Academy will furnish a thorough English and classical education to Choctaw youth—such as will fit them for eminent usefulness.

In the training of these youth, we shall ever aim, as the very highest point of education, to imbue their minds with sound religious principles. To this end, the facts and doctrines of the Bible shall be industriously taught to every pupil; and every means used, also, to form him to correct manners and industrious habits. And, we trust, the hour is not very far distant when, through the blessing of God, students shall proceed from Spencer Academy, who, in moral character, general intelligence, manners, and scholarship, would do honor to any similar institution in the United States.

Very respectfully, yours,

JAMES B. RAMSEY,

Superintendent of Spencer Academy.

Major Wm. Armstrong, *Supt. Indian Affairs.*

No. 51.

FORT COFFEE ACADEMY, *August* 1, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In obedience to the powers that be, I hasten to submit the following, as the annual report of our schools at this place and New Hope. The examination took place here on the 24th July, and closed the next day at New Hope. I am sorry to say we had but one trustee present, (Mr. McKenny;) Mr. Luce, your clerk, was present, and was solicited to take your place, which he did cheerfully. The chief of our district, some of the captains, and other officiaries of the nation, with parents, guardians, &c., were in attendance.

The school-room.—We teach six hours each day, from 9 o'clock a. m. to 12, and from 1½ p. m. to 4½. During the hours of school the students are orderly, and for the most quite industrious in their studies. Twenty-three of them read fluently in the fourth book of Goodrich's series, and a proportionate number in the third, second, and first. In reading they have generally progressed well. Twenty-nine are engaged in the study of the arithmetic; about ten of these had made a commencement before the opening of the last session; most of them, however, had progressed but little, and only three had reached the compound numbers in Ray's Arithmetic. Several of them advanced, during the past session, as far as profit and loss, and quite a number understood fractions well. Some who commenced the arithmetic about six months before the session ended, have advanced as far as vulgar fractions, and have a pretty thorough knowledge of all the previous rules.

There are nineteen who are studying English grammar. All these (except three, who had progressed as far as the adverbs before) were entirely fresh in this study the past session. The farthest advanced class in grammar can analyze any of Kirkham's prose or poetry lessons, and correct his false syntax by applying rules. The study of geography was not introduced into the school until some time after the opening of the last session. There are ten students of this department, who have been half through Mitchell's Geography, and have reviewed the greater part of it. About six months of the latter part of the session N. Webster's Dictionary was used; by the aid of this and their other books the students generally acquired a pretty extensive knowledge of orthography, a branch of so much importance in all their studies. Upon the whole, the intellectual character of our school promises well; and having witnessed the examination last year, I may be allowed to say, further, that the progress of the young men was very satisfactory to me. Mr. Wilson, long a teacher in this country, was present, to whom, in connexion with others present, I refer you for further information, lest I should be considered as saying more than might be said in modesty by me. The studies mentioned above were, likewise, the studies of our female department; that department cannot compare in examination with this, only in so far as the disadvantages of that and the advantages of this are considered. It will be sufficient to say, the past is the first session of that department. In making an undisguised report to you, I must say I consider it unfortunate to place young men and young ladies so far advanced in life in these schools as some we have. They are confirmed in habits opposing close application, either in or out of schools; and I am decidedly of the opinion that neither they nor the nation will ever realize much, though they spend

even a series of years at school. Better a thousand times for the nation that they send us children, by *no means* over fifteen years. Our schools are on a system well adapted to circumstances. I mean the manual labor system. With us it works well. The young men work on an average, the session through, two and a half hours per day. The past session they have by no means been idle. They have repaired all our old fencing, enclosed about 25 or 30 acres of river bottom, and cleared as much as twenty acres, which, when added to our old lands, make about sixty acres, being the sum total of the Fort Coffee farm, excepting the six or seven acres cultivated at New Hope. From the most of the farm we have the promise of a fine yield. The old building which used to stand at the east end of the house occupied by the mission family, has been removed, is rebuilding, and when finished will make us a very convenient barn. We have procured the lumber for the purpose of erecting a large two story frame building on the same foundation. The young men have sunk us quite a cellar, and have, by the assistance of the carpenter, nearly all the larger framing timbers ready for use. This building is greatly needed; we number fifty-four boys, and are full to overflowing. We are not so precise in rising at the *very second*, previously agreed on, as I am led to believe from reports others are; we are not governed by the second, but by the large bell; it is governed by a sleepy-headed steward, and he by a greater or lesser disposition to sleep. However, he taps the bell in pretty good time, and we are all up directly, and, as other decent persons, ready for breakfast, which is about sunrising. After which, and before we leave the table, we have a portion of Scripture read, singing, and prayer. We dine between 12 and 1 o'clock, sup near sunsetting, after which comes family worship again. Our female school numbers twenty-five regular boarders, besides some ten or twelve day scholars, whom we furnish with books, paper, and ink; so you see we are educating ninety-one children, boarding and clothing seventy-nine, and shall certainly be unable to do more until we find ourselves able to make other improvements. We have been rather pressed, having so much debt hanging over us when I arrived. However, if we had the payment due us we should not only owe no man any thing but have a few dollars ahead. We have regular preaching at both schools. Several accessions to the church this year; some appear to be really pious. We keep up a regular Sunday school, and have a tolerably good Sunday school library. The temperance enterprise takes with us finely; sixty-nine of the students and twenty-two others have taken the pledge of "tee-totalism." While the teachers and families have suffered much from sickness, the students have been wonderfully blest with health. And first, to our heavenly Father are praises due, for such an abundance of mercy through a year of so much labor as well as sickness. And next, to an intelligent and successful physician, Dr. Meek, who is, with his lady, in charge of the female branch of our school. In conclusion, permit me to acknowledge your kindness in many respects, which I need not mention. Mr. McKenny, our trustee, has been a co-worker with us in the cause of education and sustaining the schools.

The highly intelligent mercantile association, Berthlett, Heald & Co., have shown us many favors; so you see I acknowledge a heavy obligation which I shall never be able to raise. Rev. Mr. Graham, our principal teacher, has borne a large portion of the burdens, and deserves great

praise; and his assistant, Mr. Linebargo, also. And now, sir, having drawn largely on your time and patience, I must take the liberty of subscribing myself,

Your humble, but much obliged and obedient servant,

W. L. McALISTER,
Supt. Fort Coffee Academy.

P. S.—I forgot to mention the service of the female school to us here. The girls made us about 100 pairs of pants, shirts, and a great deal of knitting; besides making much of their own clothing.

W. L. Mc.

Col. Wm. Armstrong, *Supt., &c.*

No. 52.

Stockbridge, near Eagletown P. O., Choctaws,
September 3, 1846.

Dear Sir: A merciful Providence has spared my life another year, and I am permitted to prepare for your perusal another report respecting my labors and those associated with me. I will insert the names of those here who are under the direction of the American Board of Missions, viz:

At Stockbridge: Cyrus Byington, minister; Mrs. Byington.

At Iyanobi Female Seminary: Mr. David H. Winship, steward and farmer; Mrs. Winship, Miss Lydia S. Hall, and Miss Harriet N. Keyes, teachers.

As the school became larger, Miss Emily Dwight, a sister of Mr. Jonathan E. Dwight, a native, was employed to assist them. She was also a member of the school.

On the first day of October, 1845, the seminary was in readiness to receive twenty-four beneficiaries, whom the trustees might select. That number has been received, boarded, and taught. Besides the beneficiaries, forty other scholars entered the school and received instruction. The whole number was 64. At the close there were 57—of these 17 were boys.

The school was in session from the 1st of October till the 21st of July, 1846, excepting a vacation in April, from the 6th to the 20th day.

The branches of study taught, were the English language, reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, geography, natural philosophy, English grammar, and sacred music. They have been daily taught in the Scriptures, and on the Sabbath a large Sabbath school has been collected, when all of us at times go in and assist, together with some of our neighbors who act as teachers.

On Monday evening of each week, we usually held a Bible class. Miss Hall, in her writing report, says "their progress in English is astonishing. Choctaw is seldom spoken, almost never, unless occasion calls for it. Heedlessness is the principal fault we have to contend against, and that vacancy of mind which is the result of no training; yet we have much to encourage us. Of the girls at our home, it may be said with emphasis, they are gentle, affectionate, and obedient. From the least to the greatest of them—4 years to 20 and upwards—if engaged in what they know to be wrong, in school or out of school, a look is sufficient to check them.

Like all children they will repeat the offence. They strive to please us, and a look or word of approbation is appreciated according to its full value. After the April vacation, with very few exceptions, the pupils promptly returned. A weekly prayer meeting and a missionary society is sustained by them."

At the commencement of their labors, the two teachers were entire strangers in this land; and when the beneficiaries came together, many of them were strangers to each other, to the teachers, to a school room, and to books, and had a very imperfect notion of the object in view, and of what they must do as members of the school. It may be of some service to bear this in mind, that a due degree of candor and forbearance may be exercised.

In the school room Miss Hall, assisted by Miss Dwight, had the chief care of all the pupils. At other times, Miss Keyes had the principal charge. She also taught music and heard some of the classes read. In her report, I find that "sixty-eight dresses were made, twenty pairs of pantaloons, and thirteen comfortables; two quilts were pieced, mostly by the smaller girls, and one of them has been quilted by the larger ones. The number of pieces that were begun and finished, within the year, is 230; sixteen of the boarders only were large enough to render much assistance. This number was also employed in household matters by turns, six at a time, for the greater part of the year. They have also, by turns, taken care of their own apartments, and attended to the washing and ironing of the school. The improvement of most of them has been quite satisfactory. Several have been taught to knit, four to knit lace, and one to knit ladies' caps."

Mrs. Winship has charge of the girls while attending to domestic labors; and, with Mr Winship, she has the care of boarding them all. It is a rule in the family to give the children food four times in each day—breakfast, dinner, and supper are the regular meals. In addition to this, there is a luncheon or *snack* between breakfast and dinner.

Mr. Winship has the care of the farm, the buildings, and other labors. The farm is yet small, but quite fertile. We are gradually enlarging it. Eleven cows have been purchased. Two of them died this summer. We have a few swine, and shall be obliged to purchase most of our meat for the coming year. We also need some additions to our buildings. These we hope to make slowly, as our means will bear, without creating a debt.

I will here present a summary view of our receipts and expenditures.

RECEIPTS.

In the year 1844 there was received from the nation -	$1,600 00
In the year 1845 there was received from the nation -	800 00
In the year 1846, being the last half of the sum for 1845 -	800 00
In the year 1844 there was received from the American Board of Missions.	
In the year 1845 there was received from the same -	657 52
In the year 1846, first 6 months - - - - -	211 69½
Total - - - - - -	4,069 21½

EXPENDITURES.

In the year 1844 there was expended - - -	$1,186 02
In the year 1845 there was expended - - -	$2,271 17
In the year 1846, first six months - - - - -	1,323 19
	4,780 38

The allowance for the current year, when received, we trust, will enable us to meet all, or nearly all, our expenses.

The annual appropriation from the nation is - -	$1,600 00
Do do the American board - -	320 00
	1,920 00

This sum we design to apply thus:

For the board, books, &c., and medicines of 24 pupils, at the rate of $50 per year - - - - - -	$1,200 00
For the salaries of the steward, his wife, and the teachers -	450 00
For their board, for repairs, for losses, and all other incidental expenses - - - - - - - -	270 00
	1,920 00

We have much reason to be truly thankful to the Lord for his blessings on our labors during the past year. Our opportunities for preaching the Gospel are increasing, and have become more hopeful. Our Sabbath schools have done quite well. The people are improving. There is evidence of something like a new generation rising up. This can be noticed in our schools and religious meetings; and yet, alas! there are some who find their way too often to the grog-shops just over "the line." There has been more drunkenness and more murders than usual during the past year. The late emigrants have to bear the blame of much of this. They have not yet all fallen into the good habits of the old settlers. The season is fruitful, and the crops appear well. There has been much fatal sickness among our people. This is indeed a dying people, and it is a good work to help them to useful and divine knowledge, and try to raise them up. In regard to many of the Choctaws, we have found our books in their language very useful in giving them, in a way easy to them, many useful ideas. We find it the easiest, and cheapest, and most effectual way to give the *genuine Choctaws* useful knowledge, to employ their mother tongue. For many others, the English is altogether the best; but to those who have no opportunity to learn English we must present truth in a language they can hear, and which they love.

Our most enlightened Choctaws view the subject of education very justly. The importance and the power of the Christian religion to help a people even in this life, they see and acknowledge. If the American States must fill their land with school-houses and churches, and their houses with books, in order to maintain their station among the nations of the earth, it is plain that the red man needs the same. Groggeries, frolics, plays, ball sticks, blow guns, and bows and arrows, can never raise a people. Many of our people see and feel this.

Not long since I made a missionary tour as far west as the Washita, and

had a very pleasant time. I attended many interesting religious meetings, and was treated with great kindness. I saw but one red man who was drunk, and was told that he was a Creek.

I availed myself lately of an opportunity of sending you a copy of the four Gospels in Choctaw, prepared for the press by the Rev. A Wright. I hope you will receive the work. I presume it will be left with Captain Rogers, Fort Smith, by the Rev. Mr. Buttrick, of the Cherokee mission, who is now visiting us.

Dear sir, it has seemed good to our heavenly Father to afflict us, in removing our youngest child, a son, in his third year. We weep!

We were much gratified last summer in having a visit from your son Francis, in company with Mr. Wilson. We should be pleased to meet him again, accompanied by his father.

May the Lord greatly bless you and your family. There is a better world than this, where our departed kindred in the Saviour have gone to dwell. There may we obtain a mansion.

With much respect and affection, I am yours, &c.,

CYRUS BYINGTON.

Col. William Armstrong,
Acting Superintendent Southwestern Territory.

No. 53.

Park Hill, *August* 22, 1846.

Dear Sir: Your communication came to hand in due time. You desire information of the state and condition of the "Methodist denomination" in the Cherokee nation, which I will try to furnish you. The Cherokee district includes four circuits in the Cherokee nation. Rev. Edward T. Peery is the presiding elder.

1. *Upper Cherokee.*—Two preachers were appointed to this circuit at the last session of the Indian mission conference—Rev. David B. Cumming and Johnson Fields, (the latter a native;) he has since died, and Rev. W. Cany, a native, has been employed in his place. There are about 30 preaching places in the circuit, 672 church members, 2 churches, (or preaching houses,) and 1 Sabbath school.

2. *Tahlequah circuit.*—Thomas B. Ruble and Rev. William McIntosh are the preachers appointed to this work; the latter a native. This circuit includes 12 preaching places, 155 church members, 2 churches, and 1 Sabbath school. The Rev. Thomas Bertholf lives in the bounds of this charge. He sustains a superannuated relation to the church this year, but has regained his health and preaches frequently. He receives a salary from the missionary society, and is a citizen of the nation by marriage.

3. *Lower Cherokee.*—Rev. John F. Boot and John Boston are the preachers who labor in this circuit—both natives. There are on this circuit, as last returned, 333 church members, 1 church, and 1 Sabbath school. The number of preaching places about 20.

4. *Barren Fork.*—The preachers—Rev. Andrew Cumming and Tussiwalite, the latter a native. Church members 202, 1 church, 2 Sabbath schools, and about 15 preaching places. This part of our work has, perhaps, suffered more than any other the past year from the difficulties in the nation.

It will be perceived from the above that the Methodist Episcopal church south, has in this nation a membership of nearly 1,400, supplied by five white and five native missionaries, who, by the aid of some local preachers, carry the Gospel to almost every neighborhood in the nation. The society supports these men at an annual cost of about $2,360. The society owns no property in the nation. The meeting houses have been built by the church members. Rev. E. T. Peery has his residence at this time amongst the Wyandots. Rev. D. B. Cumming resides in Missouri. Thomas B. Ruble's family are also in Missouri. Rev. A. Cumming has no family. An application was made last fall to the national council for the privilege of erecting a preacher's house in the nation, which was not granted. We have no schools under our direction. Some two or three local preachers have been employed the past year in the public schools. The church at present is in a prosperous condition. She expects that her missionaries will pay every possible attention to the subjects of education and temperance, while they are endeavoring to carry the Gospel of Christ to the perishing poor.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

THOMAS B. RUBLE, for
E. T. PEERY,
P. E., Cherokee District.

Col. JAMES MCKISSICK,
Cherokee Agent, west.

54.

PARK HILL, *August* 18, 1846.

SIR: In reply to your communication of July 3d, received August 12th, permit me to say, first, in regard to the number of preachers in the Cherokee nation, under the care of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, there are at present—

Missionaries.—Rev. Elizur Butler, M. D., at Fairfield,
Rev. Worcester Willey, at Dwight,
Rev. S. A. Worcester, at Park Hill—3.

Native preachers.—Rev. John Huss, at Honey Creek,
Rev. Stephen Foreman, at Park Hill—2. Total, 5.

Rev. D. S. Buttrick still resides at Dwight, but has asked and received a dismission from the service, being in very feeble health.

The numbers of churches under the care of the missionaries of the same board, as nearly as known, are—

Church at Dwight	45
Fairfield	88
Park Hill	35
Mount Zion	30
Honey Creek	51
Total	249

The only schools at present under the care of the board, in the nation, are a female boarding school at Dwight, and neighborhood schools at

Fairfield and Park Hill. The last named has, for some time past, been partly supported by tuition fees from the scholars. Respecting the schools at Dwight and Fairfield, you will, I suppose, receive information from the missionaries at those stations. The school at this place the past year has had only about 33 scholars in all, attending more or less. Average about 16. Five were whites, (four of them my own children,) the rest Cherokees.

You are aware, I suppose, of the existence of the printing press under my care at this station. Since my last report to your predecessor in office, which was dated July 18, 1845, we have printed—

In the Cherokee language.

				Pages in all.	
The Cherokee Almanac for 1846, half English	12mo.	36 pp.	1,000 copies—	36,000	
Cherokee Primer, 5th edition	24to.	24 pp.	5,000 copies—	120,000	
Sermon and Tract	23	24 pp.	5,000 copies—	120,000	
					276,000

In the Choctaw language.

Regeneration, repentance, and judgment	12 mo.	28 pp.	2,000 copies—	56,000	
Salvation by faith, and other pieces	"	12 pp.	2,000 copies—	24,000	
Fraud detected and exposed	"	9 pp.	2,000 copies—	18,000	
Choctaw Arithmetic	"	72 pp.	2,000 copies—	144,000	
Choctaw Spelling Book	18 mo.	36 pp.	1,000 copies—	36,000	
Choctaw Spelling Book	"	108 pp.	1,000 copies—	108,000	
					386,000

In the Creek language.

Muscogee Catechism	24to.	31 pp.	600 copies—	18,600
			Total pages	680,600

We have prepared at this station, and had printed in Boston, a Singing Book in the Cherokee language, consisting of 88 pages, 8 vo.—600 copies.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. A. WORCESTER.

Colonel JAMES MCKISSICK,

United States Agent for the Cherokees.

No. 55.

DWIGHT MISSION, CHEROKEE NATION,
August 31, 1846.

DEAR SIR: Your letter, dated August 4th, was not received until the 25th. This will account for my not writing sooner. I embrace the first opportunity to answer your inquiry. There are now 10 persons connected with this mission—4 males and 6 females, viz: Rev. Worcester Willey, missionary; Mrs. Willey; Jacob Hitchcock, superintendent of secular affairs; Mrs. Hitchcock; James Orr, farmer; Mrs. Orr; Kellogg Day, mechanic; Mrs. Day; Miss Ellen Stetson and Miss Eliza Giddings, teachers. Miss Giddings has charge of the girls in school hours; teaches them spelling, reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, modern and

ancient history, and composition. Many of the scholars have made commendable improvement in the above named branches. Miss Stetson instructs the girls out of school in knitting, spinning, various kinds of needle work, &c., &c. None but females are taken into the family as boarders. About 55 different scholars have attended the school the last year, but the average number of boarders has been about 40.

There are 44 members in the church. The congregation on the Sabbath have varied from 40 to 130 or 140. The cause of temperance in this part of the nation is on the advance.

Several very interesting temperance meetings have been held, and a large addition has been made to the list of subscribers to the temperance pledge.

In addition to the regular meetings on the Sabbath, at this place, Mr. Willey has occasionally preached in 4 or 5 other neighborhoods, from 3 to 17 miles distant. Supposing the above to be the substance of the information you ask for, I subscribe myself your most obedient servant,

JACOB HITCHCOCK.

JAMES McKISSICK, Esq.
Cherokee Agent.

No. 56.

MISSION-HOUSE, CREEK NATION, *October* 6, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with the regulations of the War Department, I send you the following report of the Presbyterian mission school among the Creek Indians.

It is with pleasure I inform you that our labors during the past year have been crowned with greater success than usual. The school is larger and more interesting; better attention is given to religious instruction; and many of our neighbors are becoming more temperate and considerate.

During the past session of eight months, ending 14th August last, 42 children (18 males and 24 females) attended the school. Twenty-one of these boarded in the mission family, free of expense. Some of the children were, however, quite irregular in their attendance at school.

The studies pursued were about the same as last session, viz: Spelling, reading, writing, mental and practical arithmetic and geography. Owing to the increase of beginners, there has been a greater proportion in the lower classes than during the session previous.

Many of the pupils evince a high degree of natural talent, and their progress is in every way equal to what is common in schools among the whites. This is especially the case with those who speak both languages. The children who board in the mission family are required to engage actively two or three hours each day in some useful employment—the girls in knitting, sewing, cooking, or aiding about the dairy, as the case may be, according to their turn—the boys in working on the farm, in the garden, or chopping firewood, &c.

We are more and more convinced, from experience as well as observation, that it is of the utmost importance to have the children under the constant influence of the teacher, both in and out of school: and hence, that *boarding schools* under a *strong Christian influence*, is the only plan

that will meet the present wants of this people, and finally succeed in civilizing and Christianizing the rising generation. This now is the favorite plan with the people, and we rejoice to know that it is the policy adopted by our government in regard to the appropriation of their school funds.

The people generally are truly anxious to have their children educated. They begin to feel its importance, both in regard to their individual and national prosperity. We are not able to meet a tithe of the applications for admittance into our school.

The attention of the Creeks to the preaching of the Gospel is much improved within a few years past; but still there is evidence of a strong, deep-rooted prejudice, with many, against the Christian religion. Many of them have, however, laid aside their superstitions, and are now consistent Christians. A church has been organized at the station, consisting of 14 members, besides the missionaries. Many others are much interested in the subject.

While speaking of the Christian religion, and of the labors of missionaries here, I would respectfully state my conviction of *the solemn responsibility* resting upon our government, in regard to the spiritual interest of this people. They have been taught to look to the government as a kind of guardian over them; as their adviser in those things which will be of most advantage to them as a nation. In this way schools have been recommended, and provision made for their support; and, perhaps, too, it has been recommended to the people to receive Christian ministers among them as teachers and preachers. But still, when they come among them, they do not come by the authority or direct recommendation of the government, but *as private individuals.* Consequently, as the Indians do not feel the importance of this subject, and as it is not insisted upon by the government, they conclude that it is of little consequence; and the missionary is informed that they *do not wish preaching among them;* that it cannot be of so much importance as he represents, otherwise the government would have told them so, and sent it to them. Thus the Gospel is often rejected, or at least the influence of the missionary much circumscribed.

But let the same *encouragement* and toleration of religion be extended to this people which is enjoyed in every other part of the United States; and let the minister of the Gospel come out under the recommendation of the government, and it would be attended with the best of consequences. Opposition to the Gospel would cease, and hundreds would then attend to it where now there are but tens.

Our government has the confidence of this people, and they expect it to take some step in *reference to Christianity, if it is worth their attention.*

I was forcibly struck with these facts while making a tour lately in the southwestern part of the nation, especially among the Seminoles. Some of their principal men, when asked if they would like to have schools and preaching among them, replied that they did *not know;* but supposed that if it was good for them their *Great Father*, the *President*, would send it to them. Christianity is therefore neglected, and even *rejected*, because not sent to them by what they suppose to be the proper authority.

I am also happy in being able to inform you that something is being done towards the amelioration of the great evil of intemperance among this people. Two years ago the temperance cause was revived at this place,

and the pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks was circulated and signed by a number. Since then efforts have been made to bring it before the minds of the people in different parts of the nation; so that now we have on our rolls upwards of two hundred signers, most of whom, we have reason to believe, keep the pledge.

This success is the more encouraging because it is the result of but little effort. We intend making greater efforts, and hope to gain greater victories over this fell destroyer of the Indian race. Nothing, we believe, is doing more towards the ruin of this people than whiskey. By it their health is undermined, their wealth squandered, their energies, mental and physical, paralyzed, and hundreds of them are brought to an untimely death by this fascinating poison.

Such, my dear sir, is a general outline of our plans of operation here, and the success attending our labors among the Creeks.

With much esteem, I remain your sincere friend,

R. M. LOUGHRIDGE,
Missionary.

Colonel JAMES LOGAN,
Agent for the Creeks.

No. 57.

PLEASANT GROVE, *September* 8, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with duty, I again give you the state of the mission and mission school under my care.

We have this year, as in the past years, been prevented from effecting as much good as we otherwise might have done, for the want of a suitable interpreter; yet we have had some interesting meetings among the *real* Chickasaws, and regret that they could not be continued. Among the more enlightened, many have been led to forsake the error of their way to seek the living God, and many added to the church. Two frame church-houses, thirty feet square, are building on Red river by the free contribution of the citizens. Dissipation is less frequent than formerly.

The school has never been in a better state than the past session. It has consisted of about 20 scholars—4 in grammar, 6 in writing, 2 in geography, and some 10 or twelve in reading, spelling, &c. Our examination was quite interesting to all present.

From the interest the people manifest for preaching, schools, &c., we are encouraged to think that this nation and people are on the advance, and will soon vie with any in the Territory.

Yours, respectfully,

E. B. DUNCAN.

Col. A. M. M. UPSHAW,
Chickasaw Agent.

No. 58.

QUAPAW MISSION, INDIAN TERRITORY,
September 5, 1846.

DEAR SIR: The spring and summer session of Crawford Seminary connected with this mission, closed on the 31st of August. The school

has been kept in regular operation through the year. It is to be regretted that some of the scholars are frequently absent, which, to some extent, has retarded their improvement. During the spring and summer, however, their attendance has been unusually regular, and their progress in learning considerable. Little change in the number of scholars has occurred during the past year. Our number is 16 boys and 4 girls. The institution, in my humble judgment, maintains an honorable comparison with any of our common English schools, and the Quapaw children have given ample evidence of their aptitude and ability to learn.

We think, all things considered, the school is in a prosperous condition; and, if Providence permit, we will prosecute our labor with renewed courage and diligence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL G. PATTERSON.

General JAMES S. RAINS,
United States Indian Agent.

No. 59.

INDIAN MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
October 26, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with instructions I would beg leave to present you with the third quarterly report, for the current year, of the condition of the Indian manual labor school, now under my superintendence. The school closed its summer session the 31st of August, and the examination showed that the pupils have made good progress in the different branches of learning they have been pursuing; showing that the efforts made at this institution to improve the intellectual powers of the children of the wilderness have not been in vain. It is not to be disguised, however, that the greatest difficulty we have to contend with, in regard to their mental culture, is to get the Indian youth to *feel* an interest in books; such an interest as would induce them to apply themselves to reading and study, when they shall have retired from school to mix and mingle with their friends and relations, and form character for themselves in coming time.

The number of children, and the different tribes to which they belong, may be set down as follows: Delawares, 32—13 males; 19 females. Number of others, 61—41 males; 20 females—in all, for the quarter, 92. For further particulars, I would most respectfully refer you to the statistical report for the last scholastic year, which I presume has been forwarded you before this time by Major Cummins, the agent for Fort Leavenworth agency.

The school has been in vacation some five weeks, and the winter session is now being opened under tolerably favorable circumstances; and it is to be hoped that after a short time, the number in school will be as great as at any former period.

The general health of the place has been good; at least much better than during the same period last year.

Our farm is in good condition, having yielded an abundant harvest of

wheat, corn, vegetables, &c., which has been gathered, or is now ready to be gathered into the garner.

Our mills and shops are doing well, affording considerable assistance to the Indians around, in various ways. The shops furnish the more industrious and enterprising with wagons, and such like, by which they are enabled to make, for themselves and families, something to subsist upon. Of the mills I must speak more definitely. There has nothing been done for the Indians in all this section of country, in the way of improvements, which is of equal importance, or any thing like equal importance, with the erection of the steam flouring and saw-mill at this place. Here, the Indians from several tribes around, get a large quantity of their breadstuffs; such as flour and corn meal. But this is not the only advantage derived—the saw-mill furnishes them with lumber for building, and furnishing their houses; and what is of still greater importance to them, the mills, and especially the saw mill, offers to them inducements to industry. We purchase from the Indians all our saw logs, our steam wood, &c., thus giving them employment, and furnishing them in return, flour, meal, sugar, coffee, salt, and such other things, in a dry goods line, as they or their families may need, and those things which, in many instances, they could not have without these facilities, at least to any considerable extent.

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I have the honor to be, dear sir, your obedient servant,

W. PATTON.

Hon. WM. MEDILL,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington City.

No. 60.

SUGAR CREEK CATHOLIC MISSION,
September 2, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I have the honor of delivering to you the annual report of our schools amongst the Pottawatomies.

You are not unacquainted with the Indians amongst whom we reside; you perfectly know their state of improvement, and with what earnest the larger portion of them behave themselves as true Christians, and as people of civilized manners. Since, therefore, you are not ignorant of the care and industry with which they have begun to turn their chief attention to agricultural pursuits; and since, at the same time, you are personally informed how obstinately sickness has, from last fall till almost the present day, been raging amongst them, you will not be surprised at my stating that our scholars have been found this year considerably less regular in their attendance at school; for as on one side the parents are very desirous of training their youths from their early years to habits of industry, and as, on the other, we have hitherto been destitute of the means necessary to erect and duly to carry on a manual labor institution; and as, moreover, the former, under the pressure of sickness with which several of them have been visited, needed the assistance of their children, it is but natural and reasonable that they, under such circumstances, should wish to have their children rather engaged at home in their several necessary

household employments, especially since the dwellings of several are at no small distance from our establishment. However, this impossibility of having constantly a numerous attendance, has not prevented us from complying with the wishes of the government. Our school has been regularly kept up throughout the year, even during the most severe spells of the wintry season. The same teachers that had the care of our schools the preceding year, have again been employed in teaching, after the same plan as then stated, the different branches of school education. In the male class we have taught spelling and reading both in the English and in the Pottawatomie languages: writing, arithmetic, geography, and grammar, in the female school. The good ladies of the Sacred Heart, who were intrusted with the care of the girls, have, moreover, added to the different literary studies the teaching of all that belongs to a perfect economical education, and many of the refined arts of female academies. As to what regards the number of pupils, the accompanying schedules, stating the name, age, and different studies of each individual, show that that of the male scholars amounts to 74, and that of the females to 47; so that the total number is not less than 121 attendants—a large number, indeed, flattering our hopes with the fairest prospect; for if we had the means of establishing at our mission a boarding school, in which we could combine literary instructions with the teaching of manual and mechanical arts, I feel confident that not only the greater number even of those who now are the most irregular, but that many others besides, would be constant in attending, and their progress would not fail to be far more considerable. As, however, this is not as yet in our power, we trust that our worthy government officers will continue to afford us their efficacious assistance towards the daily improvement of the Indians; thus to dispose them to reap the expected fruits from the like institution when we shall be able to realize its establishment.

Dear sir, most respectfully yours,

J. F. L. VERREYDT.

Col. A. J. Vaughan,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 61.

Pottawatomie Baptist Mission Station,
Iowa Territory, August 20, 1846.

Sir: In regard to the school taught by me at this place, under the management of the board of the American Indian Mission Association, I beg leave to report that, in consequence of the contemplated removal of these people from their present to their new location on the Kanzas river, under the stipulations of their late treaty, no attempt has here been made to put into operation, as was the design, a manual labor school, being deemed by the board, in view of the early and certain removal of the Pottawatomies, inexpedient to enter upon any outlay of the kind. I have, therefore, to say that the school has, since my last report, been conducted, as was the case last year, on the principles of a day school.

The number of scholars reported last year as enrolled, was twenty—fifteen boys between the ages of seven and eighteen, and five girls between the ages of eight and eighteen; eleven of the whole in reading, the balance in spelling more or less.

During the past year a few girls have boarded in the mission family a portion of the time, and meals furnished the male pupils lodging at home; yet the average attendance upon the school has been perhaps less than the year previous. In consequence of much sickness prevailing in this country, not only during last autumn, but during the past winter and spring, perhaps no just conclusion can be drawn in regard to the practicability of conducting day schools among these people; but I am well convinced in my own mind that the Pottawatomies as a people are too wild and ignorant to be benefited to any extent by efforts of this kind.

Instead of being able to report considerable progress on the part of my pupils, justice requires me to say that, in the aggregate, no advance over last year has been made. It requires very great effort on the part of the teacher to bring up the studies of new pupils to the stage of those constantly leaving. I therefore leave the number of pupils enrolled, and progress in their studies, as in my last report.

The denomination of Christians with which I am connected, many years since conducted a flourishing manual labor school among the Pottawatomies while located on lake Michigan. Among the Pottawatomies here and at Council Bluffs, many of the pupils of this establishment are found under circumstances of great encouragement to the friends of manual labor schools. It is now the purpose of the board of the American Indian Mission Association to immediately, on the arrival of the tribe (now happily united again as one nation) on their lands on the Kanzas river, re-open for their benefit a manual labor school adequate to their wants in this respect. In the past, abundant evidence is found that an institution of this kind well conducted, with the preaching of the Gospel, would rapidly and substantially elevate the character of the tribe.

In consequence of delays in the execution of the designs of the society patronizing me, growing out of the stipulations of the late Pottawatomie treaty, I avail myself of the occasion to visit my relatives, designing to be absent ten or twelve weeks; on which account it will be impracticable for you to make the annual examination of the school.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. McCOY, *Teacher*.

Col. A. J. Vaughan,
United States Indian Sub-agent.

No. 62.

Pottawatomie, *September* 5, 1846.

Dear Sir: Although our mission premises are located at this point, our labors extend to but a small part of the Pottawatomie tribe. We labor among the Chippewas, Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws. These are but fragments of tribes so reduced in numbers that we do not feel justified, under all the circumstances of the case, in establishing a mission for the exclusive benefit of any one of them.

The Chippewas are improving some temporally, and will, perhaps, raise enough this year for their subsistence. In their social and moral habits they are also improving some. There seems a disposition among them to merge with the Ottowas, as they are near neighbors and speak dialects of the same language.* Indeed, the Chippewas have already dis-

used their own dialect and assumed the Ottowa, as the latter far outnumber them.

The Peorias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, speak dialects of the same language, and are, perhaps, nearly on a par in regard to temporal circumstances and social and moral habits. All have horses, and most of them cattle and hogs, and generally raise sufficient corn for their consumption. Some among them have embraced the Christian religion, and manifest the sincerity of their profession by the consistency of their general deportment. There is but little energy manifested by them generally in regard to improving their condition, either temporally, socially, morally, or intellectually.

A few of the Pottawatomies on this creek are men of intelligence and worth—an honor to their tribe and to the churches to which they are attached; but, as it regards the greater part of them, I cannot say that I see any improvement among them.

We have no school attached to this mission, but send all the children we can obtain to the Indian manual labor school situated in the Shawnee country. A good number from the above-mentioned tribes are now receiving their education at that institution.

We have about fifty church members in this charge.

Yours, most respectfully,

THOMAS HURLBURT,

Missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,

Indian Sub-agent.

No. 63.

OTTOWA MISSION STATION, *September* 7, 1846.

SIR: This mission was commenced in 1837, and is under the direction of the executive committee of the American Baptist Missionary Union, at Boston, Massachusetts, the corresponding secretary of which is Rev. Solomon Peck.

The missionaries at the station are myself and wife; native assistant, Shaw-bone-da. For some years past we have not taught an English school; but have used our influence to induce the Ottowas to send their children to the schools among the Shawnees, about twenty of whom are now there. But our time has been principally taken up in writing and printing elementary books, hymn books, portions of Scripture, &c, in the Ottowa language—in teaching such to read, write, and cipher, as do not understand English—in administering to the sick—in persuading all to adopt habits of temperance, industry, and virtue; and in proclaiming to them the Gospel of the Savior.

The improvement among the people has been great. From 80 to 100 read in their own language; about two thirds or three-fourths of the nation have become strictly temperate—about 90 have become hopefully pious; and, as a nation, the Ottowas may be said to have adopted the habits of civilization.

During the last year it has been more sickly in the nation than it was ever known to be before: about one-seventh part of them have died. They have suffered much on account of the floods of the two last years,

but Providence has kindly favored them the present season with good crops, especially of corn.

We have religious meetings four days in each week. They are generally well attended. 36 of the Indians have united with the Ottowa Baptist church since the date of my last annual report.

Yours, most respectfully,

JOTHAM MEEKER,
Superintendent and Teacher.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,
Iudian Sub-agent.

No. 64.

WEA BAPTIST MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL,
August 21, 1846.

DEAR SIR: In accordance with your request, I proceed to submit the following as the annual report of the school under my care. Since you have made yourself so well acquainted with this institution and its policy, by your highly appreciated visits, I deem it unnecessary to enter into particulars.

From my last year's report you are aware that, from sickness, we were compelled to suspend our school for a time. We were, however, enabled, through the blessings of Providence, to resume our labors about the 1st of December, and have, through many difficulties, kept the school in successful operation up to the present time. We have taken into the school (between the ages of six and sixteen) twenty children—sixteen boys and four girls: they will probably not average more than sixteen regular scholars; seven of whom can read, some are writing, studying arithmetic, geography, &c., while the smaller ones are advancing as rapidly as we could expect. Our school is taught five days in the week, six hours per day. The sabbath is devoted to moral and religious instruction, at which time they are also taught to sing—an exercise for which they have great fondness as well as aptness. The remainder of the time is principally taken up in manual labor appropriate to their sex. We have made a field of twenty-five acres, besides considerable additions to our buildings. It may not be amiss here to remark that the board of Indian missions located at Louisville, Kentucky, and from which we draw our support, purpose enlarging operations here until we are enabled to report a large school, conducted strictly upon the manual labor system. Our meetings for public worship are generally well attended. Our hopes would be very sanguine, and our prospects of bettering these people fair, were it not for the fact that while we are laboring to advance them in civilization and Christianity, the enemy on the borders are equally engaged in inducing them to take of the maddening cup, thereby robbing them of their blankets, and every means of support; besides sinking them (some at least) deeper and deeper into vice, ignorance, and wretchedness.

The managers of this institution are the undersigned and wife, natives of Kentucky; and Miss S. A. Osgood, teacher, a native of Indiana.

All which is respectfully submitted.

B. M. ADAMS.

Col. A. J. VAUGHAN,
U. S. Indian Sub-agent.

No. 65.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION,
September 21, 1846.

DEAR SIR: Severe sickness, as you are aware, has prevented me from submitting this report sooner; and even now I have to employ the aid of another. The past year has been one of considerable trial and difficulty, arising mainly from the want of permanent and suitable assistance. Last fall, the Rev. S. M. Coon, who had received a temporary appointment to this mission, left the station for Pennsylvania, after (both himself and his wife) having suffered the most severe sickness, and becoming completely discouraged and disheartened about their health. They have since received an honorable dismission from the services of the board.

To reinforce the mission thus reduced to one family, the board, during the winter, appointed the Rev. Edmund McKenney, who had for two years been superintending Spencer Academy, among the Choctaw Indians, to this place. Mr. McKenney, with his family, reached this in May last. Subsequent to his arrival, it was resolved by the board to establish a mission among the Ottoe and Omaha Indians, near the mouth of the Great Platte river, and, with Mr. McKenney's consent, to transfer him to that mission; the Rev. Wm. Hamilton, who for the past year has been with his friends in Pennsylvania, having determined to return to this station. Accordingly, early in August, Mr. McKenney and family, with Mr. Bloohm, an assistant recently appointed, from England, set out on their new and interesting mission; which again reduced this mission to its former small number. But, since I began to write, Mr. Hamilton has arrived, and in himself and his family we hope to find permanent and efficient help.

Another great difficulty under which we labored was that of finding suitable hired help to assist in the labor of the school, particularly female help. A great deal of this is necessary in Indian schools, particularly at their commencement. But this we could not get, at any price; and we were under the necessity of commencing the school with such help as was very inadequate to the task. Early in the season, the house was so far completed as to enable us to commence receiving scholars; and it was, indeed, a pleasing experiment. The great difficulty was to keep too many from coming. They were anxious to come in, at almost every age and from all quarters, and also of both sexes; but, from the want of help, and being limited by the board to twenty-five scholars from the Iowas, we could take in but a few of those who applied. Still, our school presented an interesting and encouraging appearance, until the sickness of myself and wife, and of some of our hired help, rendered us unable to sustain it as it was; and it gradually, and I must say necessarily, diminished to the small number you found when here—I think not over nine or ten Indian children.

It is proper for me here to remark, that our encouragement in the school has been entirely from the Iowa nation. Though our doors have been opened as widely for the Sacs, yet they have not sent a child to the institution. There is, in this respect, a remarkable difference between these two tribes; though the Sacs seem, in many respects, to be far before the Iowas—less drunken, better off for provisions, more high-minded, noble, and independent, and often more judicious in their conduct towards the

whites; yet, in point of having their children educated, and in their desire to learn and adopt the ways of the whites, the Iowas seem to be many years in advance. The plan of the board is to support about 25 children from the Iowas, 25 from the Sacs, and about 40 from the Ottoes and Omahas. A request has been made of these tribes for this number of their children, but, from some prejudices and unsettled difficulties, they (at least for the present) decline sending their children.

We are anxious that the Sacs should decide soon on the subject of sending their children to the schools; for, until they determine not to send, we must reserve room for them. We feel great anxiety that they should send, and believe that your agency will have a happy influence in this affair. Government officers, who pursue a proper course with these Indians, soon gain a happy and controlling influence over them. This was obviously verified in a visit of Major T. H. Harvey, superintendent Indian affairs, last fall. He was here several days, and seemed to lay himself out entirely for the welfare of the Indians, making every selfish interest and ease bend to the promotion of their interests. The effect was, that although the immediate apparent fruits were not commensurate with the efficient, appropriate, and untiring labors of Major Harvey, yet he secured an influence over them which but few other men have acquired. We hope that the Major will visit us again this fall; and if your united influence will not induce the Sacs to send some of their children to the school, we shall, for the present, despair of getting any.

Our large building for the boarding school is about completed, except the entrances at the back doors, and some work on the yards or play grounds. These yards are in the rear of the building—one for the boys and another for the girls—having no entrance except through the halls of the house. Though there is but one building, yet it is so constructed, and the play grounds so attached, that the boys and girls do not necessarily come together, except at meal times and at worship. We have on hand a quantity of ready-made clothing for both sexes, and a large quantity on the way from the East; also, bed clothes and other articles. We have a mill in operation, and about all the necessary fixtures for carrying on the school on quite an extensive scale; which we hope, with the blessing of a kind Providence, soon to do.

This is, perhaps, about all, touching our own affairs, that will be interesting to you; and modesty, and perhaps prudence, too, would say stop here. But I believe I cannot close without submitting a remark with regard to the poor Iowas. For nearly ten years I have witnessed, with painful anxiety and solicitude, their downward progress. When we came among them (early in the year 1837) they numbered 830 souls; now they will not number 500. Nor is this all. Though the efforts of the mission have been for their good, joined with the benevolent designs of government, those who yet remain are no better off than they were ten years ago. They have, also, commencing subsequent to that time, had the advantage of an annuity of nearly $8,000 per annum; but all to no purpose. Their nearness to the whites, and the facilities they have for getting whiskey, seem to be great obstructions to their improvement. But even this latter, I think, may be traced to a higher source, viz: the manner in which their annuities have been paid out. Their annuities at present amount to about $16 to each person; yet it is so managed by the chiefs that the nation never get a dividend in money of more than $4 each, and

for some years past the common people have not handled one dollar of cash. The chiefs claim the control of the money, and hitherto have obtained it; and the consequence is, that a chief may go one or two thousand dollars in debt, and have the nation pay it. Such, too, is substantially their practice. The chiefs go to the traders, and buy a large amount of goods, or a number of horses, or a quantity of provisions, or even whiskey, and it is paid. This would not be so unfair if the chiefs, after making the purchase, would make a fair division of the goods or property among the nation; but they are given to a few of their favorites called "braves," and a few particular friends, while the poor and the industrious get no benefit from it at all. In this way the chiefs secure the influence of the braves, and the braves, in return, sustain the chiefs; and the common people have been drilled along, from year to year, until it seems they conclude it is the only way in which annuities can be handled. Hence it has come to this, that the common people are disposed to urge the chiefs to go in debt, with a scanty hope that they may get some small morsel of provision, or article of clothing, such as the chiefs may see proper to give them *as a free gift*, and *not as their right*. Thus it is that the poor are penned and cramped on every hand, without any motive to spur them to economy and action. But let each one receive a full share of the annuity, and soon there would be a great change. A family of six or seven persons would receive about $100. With a part of this they might buy a cheap poney, (which they often want,) a part would be laid out for clothing, and a portion laid up to buy provisions throughout the ensuing year, which can always be had cheaper for cash in hand. A few of the vagrants might for a time lay out some for whiskey; but it would soon prove so unprofitable, that they would likely abandon it. Thus, give them their rights; throw them upon their own individual resources; let them know and feel a right in property, and the change would be obvious at once.

Some steps to prepare the way for this change in the mode of paying the annuities, have already been taken. Two of the chiefs being desirous of having houses built, promised, and fully agreed, that if the nation would agree to pay for the building of these houses, they would forever afterwards agree to divide out the money equally. But without vigilance and firmness on the part of government, when the money is placed before them, their honor and promises will soon be buried in the "money-boxes," and they will feel like handling it, as heretofore.

But, by taking advantage of these preparatory steps, with the aid and influence of the Department, I hope you will be enabled to make this important change in the manner of payment, and thus be the means of removing a woful barrier, which to me seems to be at the very foundation, to a radical and most happy change among the poor down-trodden Iowas.

But I must not weary you or myself, altogether. May every blessing attend you, and may your efforts for the improvement of these tribes of red men be attended with success.

With high regard, I am, &c. &c.,

S. M. IRVIN.

Major Rucker,
Sub-agent, *Great Nemaha, Mo.*

No. 66.

IOWA AND SAC MISSION, *September* 10, 1846.

SIR: I entered upon the duties of Iowa farmer on the 13th of April last. I began ploughing for them about the first of May, with three ploughs, and continued until about the 20th of June, when their ground was finished. I can form but a very poor estimate of the quantity of ground ploughed; but all was broke that was heretofore cultivated by them, besides many new patches. Their crops of corn, beans, pumpkins, &c., are very good; and, unless they are needlessly extravagant or wasteful, they have an ample supply for the next year.

Having been confined by sickness for some time past, I have been compelled to hire a hand in my stead, who is, and has been, engaged in hauling in their crops.

They expressed a desire some time since to have some wheat sown, which I have promised them to do whenever they get the ground in order.

I have been but little acquainted with their farming operations heretofore; but, from the testimony of others, I am of opinion that their present crop is larger than any previous one. The principal portion of the labor, however, was done by the squaws—the men generally preferring the chase, or the haunts of the whiskey trader, to habits of industry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. C. McCREARY.

WM. E. RUCKER, Esq.,
Indian Sub-agent.

No. 67.

SAC AND FOX PATTERN FARM,
September 8, 1846.

SIR: The farming operations of the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri have been quite successful, as far as product is concerned, the present year. They have made fine crops of corn, and all vegetables usually cultivated by them have yielded largely. The crops of wheat raised on the pattern farm (amounting to some 60 acres) are not so good as last year, but will make, I think, 700 bushels, including that already ground, and what has been retained for seed. We have also 60 acres of excellent corn on the farm, not more than one-third of which will be required for the stock. It will be for yourself to determine the most proper disposition of the balance. If the present policy of raising a surplus on the pattern farm be continued, I would suggest the propriety of purchasing a considerable number of young cattle, and feeding them during the spring months. In this manner a very large number might be kept comparatively without cost. The uplands afford a most bountiful supply of fine grass from April until October, and the bottoms of the Missouri river an equally fine supply of rushes and swamp grass until February. Two months' feeding in the spring, with an Indian (who can be hired for a trifle) to herd and salt them during the balance of the year, is all the attention that even a thousand head would require.

This policy would soon lead them to entirely abandon their annual visits to the buffalo country, prevent the frequent difficulties with hostile tribes, which they generally encounter while on the prairies, and have a

tendency to discourage their wild and roving habits, which more than any thing else prevent them from adopting habits of civilization.

They express a great desire to get a mill built, which I would earnestly recommend as soon as the state of their funds will permit it. They have been compelled, heretofore, to take their wheat across the Missouri river to the mill, which is not only troublesome and expensive, but leads them to drunkenness, and often to difficulties with the whites. I would recommend the erection of a horse or ox mill near the farm house, so that it might be attended to conveniently and guarded against accident. The farm being well supplied with wagons and teams to do all the heavy hauling necessary in its erection, would greatly abridge the expenses. I think that less than $1,000, with the other facilities we are in possession of, would build a mill entirely sufficient for all their necessities.

It gives me pleasure to report that the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, as a nation, have plenty of all the necessaries of Indian life, and that they manifest an increasing interest in the cultivation of the soil; which only needs the fostering hand of government to properly direct and encourage, to make them an agricultural people.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

JOHN W. FOREMAN,
Sac and Fox Farmer.

Wm. E. Rucker,
Indian Sub-agent, Great Nemaha Sub-agency.

No. 68.

Twinsburg, *October* 1, 1846.

Dear Sir: At the close of another quarter, it becomes my duty to report in regard to the Indian youth that have placed themselves under my care for the purpose of receiving an education. The number requisite have been with me, attending to their studies with usual, and I may say with increased success. Their studies are, geography, English grammar, arithmetic, reading, spelling, writing, and learning the English language. Some of them declaim and prepare compositions weekly. I am exceedingly interested in them, for they are truly an interesting class of youth.

During a vacation in the summer, I had the pleasure to visit some of their friends in the neighborhood of Mackinac, and found them decidedly among the best class of Indians.

They seemed very glad to see me, and expressed much gratitude for the kindness they have received.

I doubt not others will endeavor to avail themselves of similar privileges. Nothing would gratify me more than to train these sons of the forest, so far as I am able to do it. Nothing but education can save them from entire extinction. If I shall have the honor to close the reports of the year, I will send you specimens of their writing, &c., as I know you might be interested to receive them.

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Your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL BISSELL.

Wm. Medill, Esq.,
Office Indian Affairs.